Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-132
Monday
11 July 1988

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Cuba

Risquet Views Angolan Military Situation

PM0707971488 Paris LE FIGARO in French 2-3 Jul 88 p 3

[Stephane Marchand report: "Cuba Pleased With Its Troops"]

[Text] "Our military situation in Angola had not been so good since 1976." Jorge Valdes Risquet, member of the PCC Politburo, who is on a brief visit to Paris, made no secret of his satisfaction when he spoke to the press yesterday.

The reason for his presence in Paris is "to inform the French Government of the tenor of the Cairo talks" at which he represented Cuba. Two months after the first round of talks, which were held in London, the Americans, Angolans, Cubans, and South Africans met again in Egypt last week to try to find a political solution to the Angolan conflict. Mr Risquet talked mainly about the military balance.

"Since November 1987, a 9,000-strong South African force has been launching its biggest offensive in 13 years against our Angolan and Cuban forces. Thanks to reinforcements from Cuba, it has failed to capture Cuito Cuanavale in the southeast." Mr Risquet therefore implicitly admitted that the contingent of 35,000 Cubans has been reinforced, but refused to confirm the figure of 50,000 put forward by South African sources.

The combined Angolan and Cuban troops, together with Namibia's South-West African People's Organization, are now fighting barely 20 km from the Namibian border. On 27 June a Cuban air raid killed 12 South African soldiers on the site of the Calueque hydroelectric complex on the border, "a provocation which threatens the whole continent," according to Pretoria. Havana was retaliating for a South African artillery attack.

Is Fidel Castro prepared to send his troops into Namibian territory which is under South African administration? Jorge Risquet did not explicitly reject this possibility. He merely reaffirmed that "South Africa's presence in Namibia is illegal." This is a rather undiplomatic half-silence when the four-party talks are due to resume among experts in Washington on 11 July.

"Relations with Pretoria deteriorated between the London and Cairo talks. We are now back to the starting point." It is clear that the direct negotiations between Pretoria and Luanda in Brazzaville on 13 May annoyed Havana. Mr Risquet even described the initiative as "unfortunate." Were the Angolans trying to go it alone? The content of the Brazzaville talks has not been revealed. Pretoria says that at those talks the Angolans promised not to attack the Calueque dam. Mr Risquet strongly denied that....

Angolans Arrive To Discuss Quadripartite Talks

FL0807151288 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1425 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] The official Angolan delegation that will form a joint delegation along with their Cuban counterparts has arrived in Havana. They will attend the talks at the experts level in New York with South African representatives. The United States will mediate.

The talks will be held from 11 to 13 July in compliance with the agreements adopted in June at the quadripartite talks in Cairo. The Cairo talks were part of the effort for a negotiated solution to the conflict in southwest Africa.

The Angolan delegation includes Lieutenant General Antonio dos Santos Franca, chief of staff of the Defense Ministry, and Fernando Franca Van Dunem, justice minister.

The Angolan leaders will hold talks with the Cuban delegation to finalize details for the meeting in New York on the situation in southwest Africa.

Joint Delegation Begins Work

FL0907113088 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] The joint Angolan-Cuban delegation has begun its work at the PCC Central Committee in preparation for the negotiations that will be held with South Africa and the United States for a solution to the conflict in southwest Africa. The meeting will begin on Monday in New York. The current round of talks at the experts level will continue the work begun at the last meeting held in Cairo at the end of June between representatives of the four nations involved.

Tanzania's Warioba Receives Group, Views Talks

FL0707155288 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1429 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] Tanzanian Prime Minister Joseph Warioba has said that Cuba's support for Angola is also support for the rest of southern Africa in its efforts to confront apartheid and the struggle for Namibia's independence.

Warioba also acknowledged the information offered by a Cuban delegation to Tanzanian authorities on the results of the last quadripartite meeting held in Cairo, Egypt among Angola, Cuba, the United States, and South Africa.

The Tanzanian prime minister received the Cuban delegation, which includes Reinaldo Calviac, director of the Subsaharan Africa Directorate of the Cuban Foreign Ministry, and (Coleman Ferrer), Cuban charge d'affaires in Tanzania. The two officials told Warioba that Cuba is seeking an agreement in the quadripartite talks that will guarantee the application of the UN Security Council

resolution on Namibia's independence and an end to South African aggression against Angola and aid to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola].

Condolence Book To Open at Iranian Embassy

FL0907140888 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0257 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] The Iranian Embassy in Havana will open a condolence book for the 290 people who died in the Iranian civilian airliner shot down in the Arab-Persian Gulf [as heard] by a U.S. Navy ship. The book will be open on Monday and Tuesday from 0900 to 1400 at the corner of 5th Avenue and 30th Street in Miramar.

On Sunday, the world media reported the sad news that U.S. combat forces had downed an Iranian commercial plane over the Arab-Persian Gulf. The incident cost the lives of all 290 passengers. Many countries throughout the world, as well as political, social, and religious organizations, again condemned the irresponsibility of the U.S. Government, a country that arrogantly proclaims itself a champion of human rights.

Economic Cooperation Talks Held With GDR

FL0207124788 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Jul 88

[Text] Economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the GDR and Cuba was the main topic examined today by Guenther Kleiber and Antonio Rodriguez Maurell, vice presidents of their respective Councils of Ministers. Meeting in Berlin, the two officials highlighted the level reached in bilateral cooperation.

Technicians Comprise Reserve Work Force

FL0707150988 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1404 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] At the end of the first month of the contract process for mid-level technicians who are out of work, 442 of them comprise a reserve force created specifically to solve the situation of these workers in Guantanamo.

The group primarily was placed in units of the Sugar, Agriculture, and Construction Ministries, where they will perform useful work, although their tasks will not be in their specialties. This will train them as workers while they receive a stipend.

The State Committee for Labor and Social Security [CETSS] in Guantanamo reported to the press that 97 more youths signed contracts for a certain length of time or with no time limitations while reserve members are training in the centers. The CETSS in Guantanamo is currently placing technicians and skilled workers who graduated this year.

Matanzas Job Absenteeism Up in 1988

FL0407203388 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1943 GMT 4 Jul 88

[Text] More than 1.9 million men missed at least 1 day of work from January to May in Matanzas Province because of accidents on the job, administrative leave, illness, and unjustified causes. The province's statistical report notes that most of the absences are the result of common and job-related illnesses, with a total of 500,000 man-days, while 36,000 were lost in subordinate units. [sentence as heard] The absenteeism rate in Matanzas Province stands at 4.4 percent; in other words, it is .4 higher than in the same period last year.

Attendance in the first 5 months of 1988 was 90 percent. Varadero, Cardenas, Cienaga de Zapata, Jaguey Grande, and Matanzas Municipalities came under the provincial average.

Public Health Ministry on Medical Certificates

FL0507153188 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Jul 88

[Text] According to the Ministry of Public Health, the elimination of the "I Certify That" document and the establishment of a single medical certificate will go into effect on 1 October 1988.

This modification will permit the organizations and work centers to provide the required care to those workers who are truly ill, which is the second cause of absenteeism in the country. It was also clarified that the "I Certify That" system and certifications continue to be in force, and that within the next few days the new model will be discussed in the work centers.

Further on Certificates

FL0607225488 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2318 GMT 5 Jul 88

[Excerpts] [Announcer Daniel Torres] Friends, here is a topic that has given rise to much expectation: the medical certificates. So, the mobile unit of Rebelde's "Exclusivo" is in touch with Dr Otto Pantojas Baldoquin, a specialist in the Public Health Ministry. Good evening doctor; good evening to colleague Felix Fernando Garrido.

[Garrido] Good evening Daniel; good evening Cuba. [passage omitted] Dr Pantojas will tell us about the most salient features of the new ministerial resolution approved in the past few hours by the Council of State. It has not yet been published in the official gazette but Rebelde has the report in its "Exclusivo" 3 months before the measure goes into effect. Hello, doctor.

[Pantojas] Good evening Felix, Daniel, and Rebelde listeners.

[Torres] Good evening, doctor.

[Pantojas] The essential points of the Public Health Ministry resolution on the medical certificates are as follows: First of all, as the public knows, it eliminates the "I Certify That" of the first 3 days. Of course, it retains the medical certificate for the 3 days following the illness. Therefore, this new certificate makes it possible to certify those 3 days retroactively in case rest is ordered or in case the illness is prolonged and the doctor later wants to justify the extended leave. One of the new aspects is that data such as the number of days of rest ordered and the diagnosis of the illness is included in both the clinical history and the worker's record. A register is also established in the units for the immediate recording of this medical certificate. There is also a section in the resolution establishing a control in the various offices of the Public Health Ministry—in the province, municipality, and work unit.

In addition, for the first time, there is a section on sanctions. The resolution also provides for illnesses of sailors at sea and those who go to other countries to receive treatment. This was another aspect not provided for in previous certificates. Another thing is that the individual responsibility of the doctor increases, since from October on this certificate need not be countersigned by the director of the illness [as heard]. Therefore, the issuance of this certificate is the doctor's direct responsibility. The resolution also explains how to file claims. If there is any doubt in the work centers about the certificate, one can go to the units of the national health system and ask for all the necessary information concerning a worker's illness. [passage omitted]

Decision Viewed

FL0607201388 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Jul 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Included among the many matters we currently have to analyze in depth is what we call formalism. Formalism is making something look like it has been finished. Formalism is to fulfill the trip plan for a bus station without having a high percentage of trips. Formalism is to do what is established but without producing any results whatsoever.

Today, Tuesday, it was made known that within the next few months, health units will not expedite the "I Certify That" documents that justify absenteeism from work because of health reasons. From now on the work center's management will be the one to decide if a worker's absence is justified.

This is a measure jointly agreed upon between the Public Health Ministry, the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, and the State Committee for Labor.

It is doubtful that the measure itself will reduce the rate of absenteeism. No bureaucratic measure can change us. There are dozens of workers who do not go to health units to obtain an "I Certify That" document to explain their absence on a certain day. The labor collectives those workers belong to know that if that person does not appear at his post one day, it is because of an imperative need. No one will doubt that dependable worker's explanation.

Those who seek the protection of a doctor's "I Certify That" statement look for any reason not to work. At least they have to go to the trouble of seeing a doctor in an institution that is authorized to issue this document.

Henceforth, the work center's management will be authorized to justify or not justify absenteeism. We are not transferring the authority to justify an absence to another location. Management will have enough common sense and moderation to avoid approving everything.

One cannot prejudge, much less doubt, the good intention of suppressing [as heard] the "I Certify That" documents which are not difficult to obtain.

However, the question still remains: Will suppressing the "I Certify That" document help reduce absenteeism? Time will tell if it's merely a formal change or if the measure truly helps in attaining this goal.

New Identification Cards for Electrical Workers

FL0207015288 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 01 Jul 88

[Text] As of today, throughout Cuba, a new identification card will be used by electrical services inspectors and collectors. This will permit them to identify themselves officially if requested by a customer. The measure will make it possible to avoid entrance into homes by people unscrupulously trying to impersonate electrical services workers who normally need to enter a house to read the meter.

'Abnormal' Work Conditions, Compensation Viewed

FL0607191588 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1405 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Text] Administrative laborers that are directly linked to production and work in ports where air contamination is above normal standards will receive financial compensation for working under abnormal conditions.

A report published by the TRABAJADORES newspaper says the State Committee for Labor and Social Security took this position on 28 June in response to many statements made by the affected workers in the bays where fertilizers are handled. This measure also applies to workers who agree to work in this field.

The monetary increases for port workers handling fertilizers will assimilated by the Planned Salary Fund and approved by each unit involved.

Need for Housing, Allocation Issue Viewed

FL0107184488 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jul 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] To be able to have a roof over their heads has always been a dream of men and women. When two people become a couple in order to make a life together, a home is the first requirement. Capitalism, a social system in which everything is merchandised, exploited this need to the utmost. Capitalist entrepreneurs divided up Cuban land into lots which they sold for great profit at high interest to the highest-income strata. There was a lot of fraud and many people even lost their savings when they were swindled by these companies that profited at the expense of the dream to have a home.

The triumphant revolution confronted this priority area along with other fields such as health and education. In the past 30 years, the revolution has built hundreds of thousands of houses for our workers which are paid for by the workers themselves with just a small percentage of their wages. The state has also provided facilities for people to build the houses themselves.

However, despite the construction of thousands and thousands of units, the need for housing is still a big one. Our population grows by 100,000 each year. New needs are added to old unmet ones. The Havana City minibrigades are now answering this need and houses are also being built elsewhere in the country. The great majority of the houses built by the revolution have been distributed by the working people themselves in open assemblies at each work center. This is a little-publicized facet of our socialist democracy. It is the labor collective that decides who gets a house. It's another way to demonstrate the exercise of people's power.

In the so-called representative democracy of the bourgeoisie, many an abstract right is granted to the individual which he or she finds impracticable in real life. In socialism, the people exercise their rights, as shown by the way housing is allotted in revolutionary Cuba.

Haiti

Namphy Address on New 'Democratic Charter'

FL0907025688 Port-au-Prince Domestic Service in French 2206 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Message to the nation by Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, president of the military government, from the Salles des Bustes of the National Palace in Port-au-Prince—live]

[Text] People of Haiti: You who have been witness to the recent events that nearly imperiled the nation's very fate have welcomed with relief and satisfaction the felicitous solution that, sparing the blood of our sons, has consecrated the triumph of national peace and unity. Indeed, it is in your name and in the higher interest of the nation that, in the face of the collapse of the former political regime, the Haitian Armed Forces, faithful to their rendezvous with history, were induced to assume leadership of the state. But, although the danger has for the time being passed, it remains a fact that the nation's future is far from being ensured, since everything has yet to be done.

Therefore, we are very much aware of the breadth of the task that has fallen to us. We admit that we find it enormous. Nevertheless, we have accepted it determinedly, certain that all of you, men and women of Haiti who so love this country, will join unreservedly in the collective effort that an undertaking of this nature requires. For despite the difficulties of this juncture, we must contine forward as a sovereign nation, keeping in mind the fact that the fate of present and future generations depends on what we do, or refuse to do, today.

It is in this spirit that we wish to broach the national problem, which is essentially of a political, economic, and social nature. We are doing this frankly, and with all the strictness, realism, and serenity necessary, drawing our inspiration from the lessons of the past, of course.

One of the teachings of this past is that nothing lasting can be built in this country, which is our country, without the help and the effective and disinterested participation of all Haitians, without distinctions of color, class, degree of wealth, religious convictions, or political ideology. Now, it so happens that the nation has the opportunity to make a new start. We hope this new start will be taken in an orderly and disciplined manner and with everyone's agreement and collaboration.

This involves the reaffirmation of our commitment to pursue the democratic process by setting in place, on solid foundations, credible political institutions that all sectors of the national life will join in establishing. Meanwhile, we must do our utmost to preserve and strengthen the acquisitions of 7 February 1986 by encouraging the creation and consolidation of sociopolitical organizations and of the legal instruments that will guarantee respect for human rights and basic freedoms, such as, among others, freedom of speech, freedom of association, freedom to form unions, political pluralism, and citizens' unhindered participation in the exercise of political power.

In terms of this line of thinking, we must think about the organization of the government, which, with regard to its structure and the way it works, must be strong and effective enough to direct the nation and ensure its future regardless of the circumstances. This was to have been the objective of the Constitution of 1987. Unfortunately, drawn up and ratified in an atmosphere of passion and emotionalism, this Constitution strayed too far from our mores, adopting elements foreign to our history and to our traditions. Some provisions of this

Constitution did not have the benefit of the serenity that the elaboration of such a work, called on to govern the life of present and future generations, requires.

Nevertheless, this Constitution contains generous dispositions that consecrate acquisitions to be safeguarded at any price.

A new, equally democratic charter will consolidate these acquisitions while taking into account Haitian reality. It goes without saying that in any case the new fundamental law will be submitted to the people for approval.

Meanwhile, the government will see to it that the government apparatus is able to function, without attacking any of the people's rights or any of the public freedoms. Of course it is illusory to think about full enjoyment of one's rights and freedoms in the context of the absolute poverty in which some 70 percent of the county's population is now vegetating. Thus, it is necessary and urgent to do everything that can be done to improve the level and the quality of life of our fellow citizens, while trying to reduce the gross inequalities that are becoming increasingly accentuated within Haitian society.

To this end, measures to strengthen administrative and financial discipline will be taken. The struggle against corruption and laxity of all kinds and at all levels in the public administration and in public enterprises will be continued, with the objective of rendering more rational the expenditures of the government, raising the effectiveness of the services provided to the nation's population, and increasing the resources of the public sector by, among other things, improving tax collection.

A program of action with immediate consequences and which will generate jobs will be made public soon. Also, no effort will be spared to create the environment necessary for private initiative to blossom and for the number of available jobs to be increased, within the framework of an economic regime compatible with national interests. In this context, the private sector is called upon to play a very important role.

Under this government, the private sector will be given all necessary guarantees. Existing incentive mechanisms will be improved and new ones will be set up. This will require a stronger concerted action by the public and private sectors. We hope that the private sector will not miss this rendezvous with history, and will truly fulfill its role as a driving force of the economy.

It is also advisable to encourage the functional decentralization of the nation's economic activity by permitting the agencies of the different departments, administrative districts, communes, and rural sections to help the local population to identify, formulate, and carry out projects of collective interest. We, too, believe that real development can only come from within, desired and carried out by all the vital forces of a nation, working together. We believe that the thrust necessary to transform our country must come from joint and solidary action by its own sons, those with the greatest interest in [words indistinct] a better destiny.

If this turns out to be the case, Haiti can have confidence in its future and will continue to jealously maintain full freedom in its decision-making and its actions.

Aware that we are a part of the international community, we reiterate our desire to maintain a frank and open dialogue, within the framework of respect for the sovereignty and dignity of all parties. Let us emphasize that all useful aid that this international community may wish to give our needy masses will be welcome, as long as it does not come with constraints that constitute attempts upon our status as a sovereign, free, and independent nation. Haiti's fate can be decided only in Haiti and by Haitians.

People of Haiti, we are saying to you again: Our only ambition is to ensure the salvation of the Republic. Let us together create the political space that will facilitate the free play of democracy. There is no longer any doubt that saving the nation of necessity entails reaching a national consensus. It is in this spirit that we call on all political sectors, on union and professional organizations, on production sectors, on the various clergymen, on humanitarian organizations, on the university, on the nation's youth, and on the peasant world to participate, at our side, in the efforts to bring the nation to a normal life that is indispensable for a felicitous outcome to the process of democratization. Political solutions will take shape along the way, as this normalization occurs.

As you know, democracy is not generated spontaneously. The building of democracy involves, requires, a sustained collective effort. Every person, in whatever sector he operates, must do his part. We ourselves will shoulder our responsibilities, whatever the price. However, a collective effort must follow. It is (?this effort) that will, in the final analysis, regulate the pace of the march toward the final objective and the implantation of a real democracy in Haiti. Therein lies the great challenge facing both the Haitian Armed Forces and the entire Haitian people. It is a certainty that at this difficult junction, bound one to the other, they are sure to be successful. In this way Haiti will at last be able to offer the image of a strong nation reconciled with itself and ready to make its contribution to peace, progress, and solidarity among peoples.

In conclusion, let us pay well-deserved homage to the people of the nine geographical departments of the country who during the recent events exhibited maturity, patriotism, and exemplary discipline. We thank them for the moral support they have given our armed forces—a support that strengthens our determination to do everything possible to justify the trust they have placed in us.

Forward, people of Haiti. Let us all set to work for the salvation of the fatherland. Long live the Haitian nation, forevermore united. Thank you. [applause]

Demonstration, Pro-Namphy Slogans in Miragoane

FL0607212788 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Report from Miragoane correspondent Yves-Marie Jasmin]

[Excerpt] On Tuesday, 5 July, at 1600, there were three "rara" groups—(Pa Kole), [name indistinct], and (Pedi Pa Cheche)—from the first communal section, (Charlot), which assembled a total of some 50 peasants. The peasants wandered up and down the streets without finding anyone in town to celebrate with them because no preparations for this had been made.

However, at around 1500, we had read the following slogan on two placards leaning against city hall: Long live General Henri Namphy, president. Long live General Willams Regala. Miragoane City Hall.

We also saw many members of the Armed Forces in the streets, mixed in with a bunch of communal section chiefs and their aides, who had arrived at the military district barracks in the morning.

When we asked the leaders of these "rara" groups why they were in town, they told us that communal magistrate (Roger Vigil) had them brought into town in trucks to party and amuse themselves in town.

However, we heard what these "rara" groups were singing while in town, and yet there were no slogans in support of the military government. Nevertheless, an hour before the partying ended, one of these three "rara" groups took one of the two placards that were in front of city hall and carried it around town.

We also noted the presence of Captain (Jean Andre Cirrhus), the commander of the military district of Miragoane, dressed in civilian clothing. Sometimes we saw him in the street near the "rara" groups, which were playing music for him; at other times, we saw him at the barracks.

At around 1930, it began to rain and the peasants all ran home. [passage omitted]

Rally Said Unsuccessful

FL0707214788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Excerpts] The demonstration organized by the magistrate in Mirogoane in support of the military coup d'etat was unsuccessful. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent Jean-Renel Jean-Baptiste] [Passage omitted] Very early in the morning, city hall sent all public offices a note instructing them to close at noon and rendezvous at 1600 on the square. There was much complaining about this at the bank, because people had come from all over in the vicinity of Nippes to get their small amounts of money.

We went by the square, where we saw all the chiefs of all the communal sections and their aides, who had been there since that morning. At 1600, a small 15-person rara group called (Pa Kole) from (Bequin) started the march. The leader of this group, Mr Roger Desamo, told us they had been sent for by the magistrate to come party a bit in town, and that they had been paid to do it; that was why they had come.

Thirty minutes later, Mr Cherilus, the head of an 11-man group called Bulldozer [preceding name in English] from (Chalon), which is also in the first communal section of Miragoane, told us the magistrate had come to get them in a vehicle and that he was going to drive them back home later, but that they did not know why they had been brought into town.

Later, at around 1830, this same vehicle brought in a third, 13-person group called (Pedi Pa Cheche), from a place called (Difou). The group's leader, Mr Brinard Joseph, told us the town authorities had sent a vehicle to get them, and that they had come but did not know what for.

What we noticed during this event was that all 3 groups, which totaled 39 people, did not know why they had been brought to town. They did not sing any partisan songs. They sang rara, carnival, and [word indistinct] songs.

There is a rara group from the town of Miragoane called (O Kalbas), but we did not see it at the square.

In front of city hall, there were several placards on which was written: Long live General Namphy, president. Long live Major General Williams Regala. Miragoane City Hall. City hall had asked that the people in the rara groups carry these placards, but the groups refused, saying that was not what they had come for. According to the rara groups, it should be the section chiefs' assistants and the members of the Casecs [Administrative Councils for the Communal Sections] who should carry them. They added that they themselves had not come into town to demonstrate.

However, we did see a placard in the hands of a man in the group called Bulldozer. He told us he took the placard because he needed it to fix a spot on his house that was broken, and he did not even know what it said. [passage omitted]

However, both the people in the rara groups and the other people in town are greatly perplexed as to what the magistrate was trying to accomplish on Tuesday, 5 July. [passage omitted]

Error in Baccalaureate Exam Agreement Discussed
FL0707222688 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Excerpts] There is big problem and much talk going on in connection with this year's baccalaureate exams—both the regular exam scheduled for Monday, 11 July, and the exam scheduled for mid-October 1988 and provided for in a communique issued on 26 February 1988 by the former minister of education. [passage omitted]

The 1987 baccalaureate, as you will recall, led to certain positions, some more violent than others. A good portion of the duly registered candidates for the 1987 exam did not take the test. They said then that the exam administered in August 1987 had no credibility. [passage omitted]

A question arose: What could these students, who voluntarily abstained, expect from a special exam, which would constitute justification for the position they took back then? This question was answered shortly after President Manigat took office on 7 February 1988. [passage omitted]

The problem arose when the Ministry of Education, the only institution legally empowered to rule on the matter, issued a communique on 30 June 1988, after Manigat's departure, canceling the special October 1988 exam session that the Manigat government had granted these special students. Giving clearly explained reasons, this communique said that it was not possible to hold the special exam. However, many people supposedly affected by this problem are pretending not to understand the spirit of this communique.

Therefore, we went to the source—that is, the Ministry of Education—to find out what had happened at the 26 February 1988 meeting. We found that no technical agency of the Education Ministry had been represented at the meeting. Thus, there had been an error in procedure. [passage omitted]

If we consider everything that holding a normal baccalaureate exam, such as the normal July exam, entails, and how far behind things were as late as yesterday as regards the preparation of admittance cards and the assigning of students to the available test centers, we can say that it would be extremely difficult right now to organize such an important exam, and, in addition, to do so in mid-October, a time when they are not accustomed to holding such an exam.

This matter is thus very important. We are following events and we will come back to this later.

Student Federation Proposal
FL0707232888 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Excerpts] The National Federation of Haitian Students, Feneh, has reacted to the decision of the new Education Ministry authorities to cancel the baccalaureate exam scheduled for mid-October. Feneh says it is shocked by the serious decision set out by the ministry in a communique apparently canceling the October baccalaureate exams.

The decision to run the new Philosophy classes was not the decision of a particular minister or government but was, rather, the result of an agreement between an institution—the Ministry of Education—and representatives of school directors, teachers, and students. Considering this, we wonder if this same ministry, where the only changes have been that it now has a new minister and Dalencourt as technical advisor, can simply decide to not respect the agreement it signed. What is the value of this unsigned press release in comparison to the agreement of 26 February among all the sectors affected? Why didn't anyone take responsibility for signing the press release, like Mr St Fort, who has already said that he personally is against the October exam.

Feneh wonders if this decision is based on rancor and a spirit of revenge on the part of a few individuals, or if it is the result of the clash between the government and the students' combative spirit, convictions, and commitment in the struggle to bring change to Haiti.

Feneh asks: How much of what is said in the ministry's note is true? How much makes sense? [passage omitted] In view of all these possibilities for the October exams to be held as planned, here is what we members of Feneh propose:

First, that the ministry examine this problem again and spare the country the possible serious consequences of the cancellation of the October exams. Second, that the ministry hasten to meet with ADEP [Association of Port-au-Prince School Directors], the National Confederation of Haitian Instructors [CNEH], and the students who signed or witnessed the 26 February 1988 communique.

Three, that ADEP and CNEH take a clear stand on the matter and define an action plan to solve the problem.

Four, that the students, parents, and the general population remain mobilized on this matter and do all they can to solve the problem.

We students support and encourage all initiatives and all action taken with the intention of getting the ministry to reconsider its decision of 30 June.

That was a press release from Feneh.

Namphy Has Mistake Corrected

FL0707225488 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] The president of the military government, Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, has made the baccalaureate exam-takers in the north very happy.

Following the government's decision to regularize the situation of the baccalaureate exam-takers who had been mistakenly prohibited from taking the July 1988 exam, several directors of schools in Cap Haitien have sent messages of thanks to the president of the Republic, Lt Gen Namphy.

Several schools have expressed great satisfaction with the decision in the name of many parents, students, and teachers from north and northwestern Haiti. They termed it just and fair—a decision which shows just how clear-sighted the president of the Republic is, how much in harmony with Haitian youth he is, and what a deep-rooted sense of justice he has.

We remind listeners that this solution applauded by the population of the north and the northwest came about after several thousand candidates to the 1988 baccalaureate exam were eliminated because of a regrettable technical error stemming mostly from the Education Ministry's computer. The government has decided to put them back on the list of those taking the July exam.

That was a press release from the Ministry of Information and Coordination on the baccalaureate candidates from north and northwestern Haiti, who are greatly applauding the president of the military government, Lt Gen Henri Namphy.

Ministry Criticized

FL0807221888 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Excerpts] We are once again going to talk about the baccalaureate exam. The ordinary session of the 1987-88 baccalaureate exams is scheduled for Monday, 11 July. [passage omitted]

In the provinces, our correspondents report that the associations of abstentionists have unanimously rejected the Education Ministry decision of last 30 June. [passage omitted]

For its part, the MOP, Movement for the Organization of the Country, is concerned about the fate of the baccalaureate candidates and recalls, in a communique, that the president of the military government said last 20 June that he would respect Haiti's national and international commitments.

The MOP says in its communique: Nineteen thousand young people out of some 6 million inhabitants represent an important portion of our population on which we must count in order to build the nation's future. Therefore, we must take their case into consideration within greater serenity, compassion, and prudence. To disregard all these considerations and simply drop this portion of our long-suffering population, failing to harken to the painful sacrifices made by the parents, is to refuse to look the people's extreme poverty and desperation in the face.

The MOP continues: Who is fundamentally responsible for this deplorable situation? Who is it that applied the pressure of emotional policy to these youths, causing them to waste 2 and perhaps 3 years? Where are these people, who are incapable of containing their ambition and weighing and controlling their decisions, today—especially when it is a question of the future of an entire youth? The MOP asks: Can they (?be proud) of their obvious failure?.

A good portion of the nation's youth, now desperate, is being abandoned, facing a somber and even hopeless future. If it is true—and legal—that one must have taken and passed the baccalaureate, Part I, exams before being allowed to take the Part II exams, and that the real value of the exams must be validated one way or another by a state diploma, says the MOP, surely a modus operandi can be found in order to avoid a dangerous deterioration of the situation.

MOP thinks something must be done. The party thinks the problem must be studied at once and a solution acceptable to all found—especially since in his proclamatiion of last 20 June the president peremptorily declared that he would make it a point to respect all the national and international commitments made by the Haitian Government. The MOP expresses the hope that in this situation we will be guided by wisdom and love of the Republic.

Test Preparations Lagging

FL0807232088 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Excerpt] In Les Cayes, the students of the automatically-promoted group have announced following a meeting that they will decline the Ministry of Education's invitation. The same goes for Saint-Marc.

In Les Cayes, the students in the regular group, who are to take the baccalaureate exams on Monday, 11 July, have not yet received their cards for the 11 July exams, says our correspondent Guy Delva. [passage omitted]

Election Disputed; Official Results Delayed

PRI Suffers 'Regional Defeat'

PA0807193688 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 8 Jul (DPA)—According to partial and unofficial results published today by the local press, the ruling Mexican PRI in the current elections has suffered the most serious regional defeat in its 60-year history of absolute power. [passage omitted]

According to information gathered by the press and opposition parties, Salinas de Gortari reportedly suffered his most serious defeat to his center- leftist rival and former PRI member, Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, and to a lesser extent to conservative Manuel Clouthier.

The worst defeat seems to be the one suffered in Mexico City, the center of political power, where the early figures predict a spectacular victory for Cardenas.

Lazaro Cardenas' son also achieved important victories in Michoacan, Morelos, Guerrero, and the heavily populated state of Mexico. Meanwhile, Clouthier seems to have won the elections in the northern Chihuahua State and the central Jalisco State.

This reality, proven by the votes cast, was admitted yesterday by PRI presidential candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari when he said "the days of a sole party" have come to an end, and a new era with "a majority party and strong competition on the part of the opposition," has begun. [passage omitted]

The "landslide" of opposition votes seems to be what forced the Federal Electoral Commission [CFE] to delay its release of the official results of the vote count promised for the night of the elections. [passage omitted]

According to documents presented by Cardenas' delegates and the voting centers, 3,903 of the 55,000 ballot boxes throughout Mexico City and the 11 states were counted, and Cardenas received 54 percent of the votes, Salinas de Gortari received 24 percent, and Clouthier received 17 percent.

Meanwhile, in Mexico City, 2,146 ballot boxes (30 percent of the total) have been counted. According to Cardenas' followers, their leader received 44.3 percent of the votes, Salinas de Gortari received 26.6 percent, and Clouthier received 24.3 percent. [passage omitted]

Opposition Charges PRI Fraud

PA0807230888 Paris AFP in Spanish 2148 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Excerpts] According to Manuel J. Clouthier, candidate of the National Action Party (PAN, conservative), the two main Mexican opposition leaders met today and concluded that "the PRI is already the third-ranking electoral force in the country" and pledged "not to release any figures" in order to make "the PRI's fraud" more difficult to accomplish.

The PAN candidate, who today "exchanged information" with Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, candidate of the National Democratic Front (FDN, leftist), denounced the irregularities that have taken place in the vote tally at the Federal Electoral Commission and said that what the PRI wants is "to bide for time to fix the figures." [passage omitted]

The meeting between the two opposition leaders took place today amid a wave of charges of PRI fraud and much suspense regarding the official announcement of the election results scheduled for 10 July.

Eduardo Garcia, leader of the Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce, said that businessmen "will only support a government that truly proves its legitimacy" and that the PRI head brought to mind "past vices" when he announced his party's victory in advance.

Elsewhere, the Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic said through its leader, Jorge Ocejo, that "no party can say that Mexico's president is already elected, and Carlos Salinas cannot consider himself president of the republic." [passage omitted]

In Oaxaca State, southern Mexico, the Labor, Peasant, and Student Coalition of the Isthmus—which is close to the FDN and well-known in Mexico because of its combativeness—has scheduled a mobilization on Sunday, the day of the official count, "which will signal the beginning of an intense struggle in defense of the people's vote." [passage omitted]

PRI Claims Salinas Lead

PA0907014188 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0119 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Jul (DPA)—Tonight the PRI announced that its presidential candidate, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, is leading the vote count in the Mexican elections with 47.36 percent of the vote.

The PRI cited as its source the CFE, which released electoral information to each of the eight parties that took part in the race. The ruling party said Cuauhtemoc Cardenas follows Salinas in the vote count with 26.74 of the vote.

Of a total of 4,464,272 counted votes, Salinas de Gortari has 2,114,838 (47.36 percent), Cardenas 1,193,906 (26.74), conservative Manuel Clouthier 925,103 (20.72), Social Christian Gumercindo Magana 42,199 (0.95), and radical leftist Rosario Ibarra de Piedra 17,802 (0.40).

PRI Message on 'Victory'

PA0907042188 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jul 88

[PRI message to the media; date and place not given—recorded; read by Jorge de la Vega, president of the PRI National Executive Committee]

[Text] The PRI reiterates its legal, clear, and unquestionable victory in the election of Carlos Salinas de Gortari as president of Mexico. The PRI promised to abide by the law and it has fulfilled that promise. It also promised its members and supporters that it would strongly and unrestrainedly defend the elections and the victory of its candidates. With absolute honesty and respect for the people's will, based upon authentic information, we maintain our presidential candidate's victory, and we will recognize the victories of opposition candidates for other positions as a result of the popular elections.

The PRI has fulfilled the agreement made by all the political parties to not provide election return figures until the CFE has done so. The PRI, because of the political importance of the current electoral process, also states the following: The official figures the CFE's technical body has distributed to all parties are identical to the PRI's figures and confirm Carlos Salinas de Gortari's legal and overwhelming victory.

By this time all of the political parties have received official information stating this; the information indicates that our candidate has a considerable lead. In accordance with the [words indistinct] by our party, the PRI's victory up to this point extends to 27 states. Our victory extends to the majority of our candidates who sought public offices. This assertion is based on the inspection of election returns from all the polling tables installed throughout the country, at which our representatives and the representatives of other parties obtained—in accordance with Article 283 of the Federal Electoral Code—our respective copies of the election returns.

Our party publicly denounces the fact that in contrast to the PRI's compliance with the law, the opposition political parties are violating the arrangements and agreements made by the CFE and have adopted a strategy that is aimed at confusing and deceiving the people. The PRI will defend its legal and unquestionable victory through every legal means. The PRI will use the strength of all its organizations to fight off provocation and irresponsibility. It will not allow pressure and blackmail to run counter to the dignity and respect that millions of Mexican voters deserve.

The PRI respects the law, and it is calling upon the political parties and their candidates to obey the law and to respect the will expressed by the Mexican people at the polls. Elections are won with votes and not with pressure and political maneuvers. Respect for the law and the people's wishes will prevail over reprehensible actions. Thank you, gentlemen of the press.

More on 'Battle of Numbers'

PA0907132388 Paris AFP in Spanish 1036 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jul (AFP)—A battle of numbers began on Friday between the two main contenders in the 6 July presidential election, Carlos Salinas of the ruling PRI and Cuauhtemoc Cardenas of the center-left National Democratic Front (FDN), who are each claiming victory in the elections.

The final figures will be published tomorrow by the CFE, an official body which the opposition accuses of being one of the decisive links in the "great fraud."

Observers believe that although the CFE includes representatives of the opposition, Government Minister Manuel Bartlett is the one who pulls the strings.

After having proclaimed victory on Thursday without giving figures, the PRI candidate said in a news conference last night that the partial official results released shortly before by the CFE gave him the lead with 48.69 percent of the 6,777,739 votes counted; 27.16 percent for Cardenas; and 18.90 percent for Manuel Clouthier of the conservative National Action Party (PAN).

Commenting on these figures, Salinas stressed the political plurality achieved in Mexico, stating: "it is a new reality with which we must learn to live."

Cardenas claims that according to the records of the voting offices, where the votes are being counted, he is in the lead.

The figures released by the FDN based on 5 million votes throughout the country give 43.70 percent to Cardenas, 26.6 percent to Salinas, and 24.1 percent to Clouthier. According to the FDN, its candidate obtained 47.5 percent of the vote in the capital versus the PRI candidate's 26.5 percent.

Cardenas asked his supporters to go tomorrow, Sunday, to the regional centers where the votes are counted to protest if the CFE announces figures different than those listed in the records of the polling places.

Jorge Alcocer, representative of the FDN in the CFE, said that the opposition does not have direct access to the information of the CFE's main computer and can only see the results of the polling places chosen by the PRI. "We are convinced that the fraud is organized through that main computer," Alcocer said.

The role of the news media is decisive. Almost all of the media have limited themselves to releasing the CFE results, which this morning stressed in a communique that only its official figures are valid.

PRI leader Jorge de la Vega accused the opposition parties of "wanting to confuse and deceive the people. The PRI will defend its legal and unquestionable victory with the weapons that the law grants it...and it will not allow the millions of Mexicans who voted to be deprived of the dignity and respect they deserve."

Protest Mobilizations Begin

PA0907192088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1756 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jul (EFE)—The opposition parties have held demonstrations in five states to protest the irregularities and violations in the 6 July Mexican presidential elections.

One day before the official election results are to be released, the center-left National Democratic Front (FDN) and the right-wing National Action Party (PAN) began protest mobilizations, mainly in Sonora, Chihuahua, Durango, Jalisco, and Veracruz States.

Amid confusion and a long wait, unofficial figures indicate that the ruling PRI is leading, something that has been rejected by opposition parties, which also believe that their candidates might be the winners.

PAN presidential candidate Manuel Clouthier called for a demonstration today for "independence." With the demonstration, which should end at Mexico City's main square, he is beginning a campaign of "civil and peaceful resistance in defense of democracy."

Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, candidate of the FDN and the Mexican Socialist Party (PMS), told his supporters to go on Sunday to the 300 electoral districts into which the country is divided to monitor the vote count to prevent the possibility of fraud.

An FDN source said that Cardenas' followers "will take to the streets to report the votes in each voting booth if necessary to stop the fraud that might be taking place."

The protests against the irregularities are taking place in various parts of the country, but so far there have been no violent clashes.

The PAN candidate said that if there has not been any violence, it is because they "have not allowed it in order to keep the process within the legal framework."

The CFE has not yet disclosed the official results of the elections, but the opposition parties have unleashed "a war of numbers." The major opposition forces claim they are leading in the vote count, while the PRI and its candidate have declared themselves the winners.

In the city of Monterrey, capital of northern Nuevo Leon State, the PAN appealed to residents to begin a peaceful resistance campaign to demand respect for the legality of the electoral process.

The PAN called on its supporters in Chihuahua State to take over public offices and to block highways as part of the civil disobedience program against electoral fraud.

In the states of Jalisco, Durango, and Veracruz, the FDN and the PAN charged that many irregularities were committed in Wednesday's elections. For that reason, their followers have staged sit-ins in front of government offices.

Ciudad Juarez Bishop Manuel Talamas Camandari said that the PRI will have to prove there was no fraud in the presidential elections.

PRI President Jorge de la Vega Dominguez said that he will defend the party's "legal and irrefutable triumph" with all legal means. For that purpose, he plans to marshal all the strength of its organizations to counter opposition party "provocations."

Further on Demonstrations

PA0907210988 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2020 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jul (DPA)—The opposition has held several demonstrations in the Mexican states of Chihuahua, Durango, Jalisco, Sonora, and Veracruz, and the capital city "to defend the vote" and in support of "the legality of the elections" held on 6 July.

Supporters of center-leftist Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, National Democratic Front (FDN) candidate, and Manuel Clouthier, conservative National Action Party (PAN) candidate, staged several separate demonstrations, ranging from marches, meetings, and caravans to the blocking of streets to protest election irregularities.

In the northern states of Chihuahua and Sonora, the central states of Durango and Jalisco, and the eastern state of Veracruz, the opposition parties decided to form a sole front for the defense of the vote in response to the virtual victory of the ruling PRI's Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Thousands of Cardenas' supporters marched through downtown Durango to protest the illegality of the elections and to request the annulment of the votes cast in the city's first district. Meanwhile, PAN groups urged the citizens to "arm themselves with courage and to stop being afraid."

In Jalisco, PAN officials urged the citizens to join the "civil resistance" announced by the party, which is scheduled to begin this afternoon in Mexico City with a march that will begin at the Angel of Independence monument and end at the main square in Mexico City.

Likewise, approximately 2,000 Cardenas supporters held a demonstration in Veracruz to demand respect for the people's votes.

In Hermosillo, Sonora, members of the FDN and the PAN formed an alliance to defend the vote at a meeting last night.

In Chihuahua, the opposition held a demonstration in front of the state CFE to protest the irregularities reported during the elections. Meanwhile, the local PAN party said that it will demand the annulment of votes at several polling tables.

This afternoon, a group of Cardenas supporters held a peaceful vigil at the CFE offices, which tomorrow will announce the final results of last week's election for president, senators, and deputies.

PAN Considering Referendum Call

PA0907231888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2211 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 9 Jul (EFE)—Today Manuel Clouthier, presidential candidate for the rightist National Action Party (PAN), said that he will lead acts of peaceful civil resistance in defense of the vote because "the clumsiest of all frauds is being perpetrated" in Mexico's presidential elections.

At a news conference in Mexico City, the PAN candidate said his party is studying the possibility of calling for a national referendum on the legality of the elections held last Wednesday "in case fraud is confirmed."

Clouthier said the referendum would ask the Mexican people if they recognize the victory of the PRI's presidential candidate, Carlos Salinas de Gortari. The PAN's decision to reject the elections would depend on the results of the referendum.

Clouthier said the data broadcast by the PRI to support the victory declaration of its candidate has been "selective and manipulated" because the CFE is in recess until Sunday and has not issued any official information. [passage omitted]

Papers on Salinas Victory

PA1007032488 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] The major Mexican newspapers today reported on their front pages Carlos Salinas de Gortari's considerable lead in the vote count for the 6 July elections.

EXCELSIOR's 8-column headline stated: "Carlos Salinas de Gortari Ahead in the Count; 48 Percent of 6.7 Million Votes." In its lead story, the newspaper reported that the PRI candidate obtained 3,300,122 votes. The paper added that the report had been obtained from the Government Ministry at the request of the political parties. In addition, the Goverment Ministry issued a communique last night stating the information concerning electoral results has been released in accordance with Federal Electoral Code regulations by the Technical Secretariat of the CFE, headed by Deputy Government Minister (Fernando Elias Calles).

EL UNIVERSAL's front page stated that Carlos Salinas de Gortari was leading in the vote count with 3,309,410 at 19,000 polling tables. This is 48.69 percent of the 6,485,909 votes that had been counted as of last night by the CFE.

EL NACIONAL's 8-column headline reported the PRI reiterated its legal and clear triumph that as of that time extended to 27 states and included most of its candidates.

UNOMASUNO on its front page also reported Carlos Salinas de Gortari's victory at 12,608 polling tables. The newspaper added that these figures had been released by the CFE to all candidates, and represented 47.36 percent of the tallied votes.

In addition, EL NACIONAL reported that Carlos Salinas de Gortari stated he is leading in the 6 July election, with a total of 2,114,386 votes at 12,608 polling tables.

National Defense Secretary Gen Juan Arevalo Gardoqui stated that the country is totally calm.

[Begin Arevalo Gardoqui recording] I continue to say that at this time the country is enjoying total peace and calm such as other areas of the world would like to have. [end recording]

The national defense secretary commented that the Armed Forces are faithful to the government institutions because they always follow the straight path and for this reason they will always be faithful to the people of Mexico. Gen Arevalo Gardoqui was interviewed at the Alvaro Obregon Military Field, where 1,271 kg of cocaine was being destroyed.

Cardenas Claims Victory

PA1007033788 Paris AFP in Spanish 0258 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jul (AFP)—Today Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, National Democratic Front (FDN, center-leftist) presidential candidate, said that he won the presidential elections held this week in Mexico.

Cardenas said his statement is based on "information from inside the government that merits full credibility."

"I state this information with complete responsibility, aware of its far-reaching effect and consequences," he added.

Cardenas said at a news conference that if Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who proclaimed himself winner for the ruling PRI last Thursday, is fraudulently elected, "this would be technically equivalent to a coup d'etat."

CFE Spokesman: Delay Possible

PA1007164388 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1537 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] The organizations that comprise the National Democratic Front [FDN] headed by Cuauhtemoc Cardenas have called on their supporters to gather this Sunday in front of the headquarters of the federal district committees to supervise the vote counting process.

Today was, in principle, the date established by the CFE to announce the definitive official results of the elections held on 6 June; however, a CFE spokesman told foreign newsmen that it is very possible official figures will not be released this Sunday.

The CFE, an organization whose membership includes representatives of all the parties and whose president is Government Secretary Manuel Barlett, will meet in a general session early this afternoon (1800 GMT) to set a definite date for issuance of the election results.

According to followers of Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, if there is fraud and the winner is not the one elected by the voters, there will be a general demonstration throughout the country.

The supporters of Manuel Clouthier, leader of the National Action Party (PAN), staged a march on Saturday in downtown Mexico City, thus beginning their announced "peaceful civil resistance" against alleged electoral fraud. Appromimately 70,000 people participated in the demonstration.

The latest unofficial election figures released by the CFE Technical Secretariat have PRI Candidate Salinas de Gortari winning with 4,937,000 votes, followed by FDN's Cardenas with 3,006,000 votes, and PAN's Clouthier with 1,600,000 votes.

The opposition parties do not agree with the unofficial preliminary figures released.

These data are based on the vote count of 28,332 out of a total of approximately 55,000 polling centers.

PRI, PAN Clash in Juarez

PA1007184888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1721 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 10 Jul (EFE)—Approximately 2,000 members of the right-wing National Action Party (PAN) blocked the international "Cordoba" Bridge that links the Mexican city of Juarez with the U.S. city of El Paso last night to demand respect for their vote in the Mexican presidential elections.

Also, PAN supporters clashed violently with followers of the ruling PRI, according to the newspaper UNOMASUNO, which reported that several people were injured. The clash occurred in front of the municipal palace in Juarez. PAN members staged a "sitdown," as part of their program of peaceful civil resistance against possible fraud in last Wednesday's elections.

The opposition has staged several protest demonstrations since last Friday in more than five Mexican states in an effort to prevent electoral fraud. [passage omitted]

CFE Begins Work

PA1007201688 Paris AFP in Spanish 1947 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jul (AFP)—The CFE began its work today, but the announcement of the results of the presidential elections may not be known for 2 to 3 days, according to estimates received from meeting participants.

It is believed that the work will be long and laborious in view of the large number of results that have to be examined and the figures that have been challeneged by the parties.

Interior Secretary Manuel Bartlett opened the meeting at 1110 (1710 GMT), and 1 hour and 15 minutes later it was decided to take the first recess.

Partial Results Revealed

PA1007205788 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1828 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Mexican Government Minister Manuel Bartlett Diaz, president of the CFE, has said the vote count will be conducted with the participation of all political parties and electoral officials. Bartlett Diaz said that in accordance with the Federal Electoral Code, the votes will be counted in the following order: First, the votes for federal deputies; second, the votes for senators; third, the votes for president. This national news system is going to report the first results that were revealed. The information was provided by the Second and Eighth District Committees of the Federal District.

The Second District Committee reported the following results for single-member district deputies: PRI has 13,272 votes; National Action Party has 11,440 votes; Popular Socialist Party [PPS] has 6,625; Cardenist Front for National Reconstruction Party [PFCRN] has 4,839; Mexican Socialist Party [PMS] has 4,227 votes; Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution [PARM] has 3,572 votes; Revolutionary Workers Party [PRT] has 817 votes; Mexican Democratic Party [PDM] has 376; and 1,945 votes were annulled.

The Second District Committee also reported the following results for multimember district deputies: PRI has 13,456 votes; PAN has 11,519; PPS has 6,680 votes;

PFCRN has 4,887 votes; PMS has 4,284 votes; PARM has 3,605 votes; PRT has 826 votes; PDM has 381 votes; and 1,966 votes were annulled.

The Eighth District Committee of the Federal District reported the following results for single-member district deputies: PRI has 20,144 votes; PAN has 17,336 votes; PPS has 5,377 votes; PFCRN has 5,056; PMS has 2,956; PARM has 2,667 votes; PDM has 515 votes; and PRT has 307 votes. This committee reported the following results for multimember district deputies: PRI has 13,604 votes; PAN has 11,826 votes; PPS has 4,110; PFCRN has 3,718 votes; PMS has 2,199 votes; PARM has 2,038; PDM has 431 votes; and PRT has 256 votes.

At present, the CFE has begun to count the votes. This station will bring you news throughout the day.

FDN Wins Senate Seats

PA1107010588 Paris AFP in Spanish 0039 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jul (AFP)—The National Democratic Front, a center-leftist alliance, has broken the hegemony over the Senate formerly held by the ruling PRI by winning four Senate seats in Wednesday's general elections, according to a reliable source within the PRI.

The source said the FDN, which backed PRI dissident Cuauhtemoc Cardenas as a presidential candidate, won the two Senate seats for the Mexican capital and two others in Michoacan State, Cardenas' home state.

The source said the FDN had also surpassed the PRI in votes for president in the country's capital.

PRI 'Source' on Losses

PA1107021588 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0151 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 10 Jul (DPA)—Today a high-ranking source within Mexico's ruling PRI confirmed that the PRI suffered losses to the center- leftist opposition in 4 of the country's 32 states, including the federal capital.

Talking with foreign newsmen, the source, who expressly asked not to be identified, said his party lost the presidential election in the capital and in the states of Michoacan, Morelos, and Mexico, located in the central part of the country, which account for about 30 percent of the electorate.

However, the source said that despite these adverse results, PRI candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari has a "wide margin" that will guarantee his victory at the national level. [passage omitted]

CFE Reports Salinas Leading

PA1107125888 Paris AFP in Spanish 1237 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jul (AFP)—Today the CFE announced that Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the ruling PRI's candidate, has obtained 52.89 percent of the votes in the Mexican presidential elections.

The CFE said this percentage is based on the count of 73.99 percent of the votes cast last Wednesday.

The CFE reported that Salinas is followed by Cuauhtemoc Cardenas of the center-left National Democratic Front with 29.10 percent and by Manuel Clouthier of the conservative National Action Party with 16.68 percent.

Salinas Views Elections, Democratization Goal

PM0807093088 Madrid YA in Spanish 3 Jul 88 p 9

[Interview with PRI presidential candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari by I. Perez Santos—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Mexico—[Passage omitted] [Perez] How do you view the country's political situation prior to the elections?

[Salinas] I view it very optimistically because the Mexican people will have clear options from which to choose. I believe the options now open to Mexican voters show that there is political scope for the various tendencies, from the far right to the far left. We are the progressive center, and I am sure that this is where the electoral wishes of the majority of Mexicans lie. My aim is for the PRI to remain the majority party by means of clean, honest, and convincing elections. The options are, on the one hand, the right—with stances which, if put into practice, would affect social rights secured by the Mexican people at great cost—and, on the other hand, the left, in a federation of parties and organizations and with a political platform that would cause us to move backward rather than forward.

[Perez] The PRI chairman hopes that you will secure 20 million votes and said that a great effort is being made to make everyone vote. Are you afraid that a large number of abstentions could jeopardize your chances?

[Salinas] No, I believe that if people did abstain it would jeopardize all the parties. This is why we are working hard to win people over and encourage our supporters to vote; we are not encouraging voting in general. The other parties must concern themselves with ensuring that their supporters vote.

[Perez] Can you calculate what percentage of the votes the PRI will receive?

[Salinas] It is rather difficult, but I believe around 60 percent would be a satisfactory result for us. I believe the diversity of the many opinion polls before the elections reflects the more democratic life that exists in Mexico, the fact that alternatives are respected and that the stances representing the various platforms can be freely presented. It also reflects a greater complexity in our country's social life and a greater variety in Mexicans' political attitudes, which I consider very healthy.

[Perez] Do you consider it healthy for a democracy to have a single party govern uninterruptedly for almost 60 years?

[Salinas] If that is what the voters want, it is their choice.

[Perez] The opposition also accuses you of using state funds to finance your campaign.

[Salinas] We use the funds legally allocated to the various parties: Every party contesting the elections has legally authorized funds, proportionate to its share of the vote in the previous elections. The party also comprises some huge organizations—the strongest in the country—which mobilize people and organize rallies using their own funds. [passage omitted]

[Perez] How do you intend to achieve the democratization of Mexican political life?

[Salinas] Democratization cannot be achieved through personal will or be imposed from above. Democratization is achieved by encouraging participation, observing the channels for participation, the proper forms of organization. To demand democratization by decree amounts to going against democracy.

[Perez] Have you encountered resistance to your modernization plans within the PRI?

[Salinas] Each party has its own rules for choosing its candidates, and in each country they depend on local conditions. It is not a matter of destroying the political system but a matter of modernizing it in order to strengthen it and make it more democratic, with a greater capacity to meet the people's demands, and the party will definitely be involved in this modernization. The PRI will have to change if it wants to retain the majority, but this modernization must be carried out not radically but as a gradual reform of the system with a view to democratization. I have made a public commitment to the PRI'S modernization with the agreement of our party's membership, structures, and grass roots, by means of a broad dialogue, and we will honor this commitment. There is an awareness of change and transformation within the PRI'S leadership and membership at the moment.

[Perez] Do you believe President de la Madrid's promises of ethical reform within the administration have been honored?

[Salinas] With regard to ethical reform, President de la Madrid's reform made extraordinary progress in the upper and middle echelons of the civil service. Now contracts are awarded through public competition and there is no possibility of their being awarded through cronyism. In this administration there have been no spectacular instances of violation of basic rules of honesty. We must therefore continue this process in essential sectors of the public administration such as the security bodies. It is a very serious problem, partly in view of the challenge posed to us by drug trafficking. Drug trafficking is a major phenomenon in our country, because we are aware of the huge resources available to these organizations, and to combat this phenomenon we must strengthen the ethical standards, honesty, and authoritativeness of the security bodies. [passage omitted]

[Perez] What approach do you intend to adopt with regard to foreign policy in the Central American region?

[Salinas] The chief feature of Mexican foreign policy is adherence to the principles of nonintervention, the peoples' self-determination, the peaceful resolution of conflicts, and the quest for cooperation for the sake of peace and development, which are the most important things. I aim to follow these principles but to pursue a more active foreign policy in terms of promoting a greater Mexican economic presence, promoting the trade activities of Mexican exporters and greater cultural exchange. In the specific case of Central America, I believe it was a very good thing to have promoted a political solution to a problem that could have caused a general military conflict in the area. I believe that the Esquipulas agreement enabled the Central American countries themselves to establish the framework for a dialogue and for resolving their own problems.

Costa Rica

Arias on Economic Plans, Cuba's Role in Area

PA0907030888 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 4 Jul 88 pp 1-A, 10-A

[Report by Jose Melendez on interview with President Oscar Arias by unidentified reporter in the presidential office in San Jose—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] "The main obstacle to faster economic development in Latin America is the foreign debt, but, in Central America, the main obstacle is war." This statement was made by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias during a lengthy conversation in his presidential office, which is adorned with photographs in which the president appears with leaders from all parts of the world. [passage omitted]

He speaks of Mexico with gratitude. He views a recent agreement signed by Mexico and Costa Rica as of utmost importance for Latin America. As a result of that agreement, the Mexican Government granted Costa Rica favorable, soft terms for canceling a $149-million debt. The terms include a 4-year grace period on the capital amount and 14 years to pay off the debt. The agreement also includes a mechanism for acquiring shares of the Mexican foreign debt at discount cost in secondary markets. [passage omitted]

The president called for stronger South-South relations. He said: "I can tell you that we are now purchasing in Brazil many of the items we used to get from Europe and the United States. The prospects for commerce and the economy are good in general, and, I would say, prospects are also good for handling the foreign debt." [passage omitted]

Regarding economic policies, he said: "Our policies approximate the economic philosophy of the Reagan administration, because we believe we must make changes and liberalize our economy, decrease trade protectionism, put our finances in order by quickly decreasing the deficit, and adopt a policy of gradual devaluation of our currency to encourage the export sector.

"I am also convinced that state enterprises should be turned over to cooperatives in order to turn Costa Rica into a true, economic democracy. We are doing these things not because the United States is making economic aid conditional on our adopting these measures, but because this is the way we feel about it.

"I am certain that structural changes are necessary. I believe it would be difficult for the country to get ahead without drastically increasing its exports. To achieve this, we must make our industrial and agricultural sectors more competitive and efficient." [passage omitted]

President Arias was asked: You have insisted on the importance of dialogue as a civilized way to resolve conflicts. Why have you not reestablished diplomatic relations with Cuba?

Arias responded: "As long as countries making great efforts to consolidate democracy and to conquer underdevelopment believe that Fidel Castro could be behind groups that in various ways are undermining these efforts, they cannot be motivated to reestablish relations with Cuba.

"Who could doubt that the Salvadoran guerrillas are being protected and financed by Cuba? No one has any doubt about that. One cannot ask President Jose Napoleon Duarte to change his position with regard to Cuba as long as this situation exists. The same is true for Guatemala." [passage omitted]

The president also noted: "In Costa Rica, there are groups bent on a permanent conflict with the government, but they do not resort to armed struggle because, in this country, there is the electoral option. However, those that resort to continuous, violent demonstrations have if not material support, at least moral support from Fidel Castro." [passage omitted]

Madrigal on Ministers Meeting With Shultz

PA0907024488 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto said that with regard to the meeting of the four Central American foreign ministers with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz prior to the presidential summit, the goal is to evaluate progress made and to determine which agreements have not been met. We want to insist on the need to form a democratic alliance and to have all countries fulfill their commitments to achieve peace and democracy, Foreign Minister Madrigal Nieto added.

The meeting of foreign ministers with Secretary of State Shultz is not aimed at creating an anti-Nicaraguan front, Foreign Minister Madrigal Nieto said. It is a matter of exchanging viewpoints with other countries, which are largely democratic in nature, to try to urge other countries to fulfill the Esquipulas agreements, Madrigal Nieto said. In addition, he said, Esquipulas should be subjected to two types of evaluations to find out how much has been fulfilled and to bring the Esquipulas II guidelines up to date.

The idea is for all Central American countries to live according to the same principles of respect for democracy, even though there are different economic structures and different viewpoints. However, in Nicaragua's case, differences in principles—which are fundamental for establishing a cease-fire—have arisen. This cease-fire process is a step of great importance in the Central

American peace efforts. Madrigal Nieto said that the aim [of the meeting] is to convince Nicaragua to conform with the Esquipulas guidelines.

Civil Guards Arrest 30 Contras in June

PA0907000888 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Public Security Ministry official Marino Sagot reported that Costa Rican Civil Guards, stationed in the northern area of the country, arrested 30 heavily armed Nicaraguan contras last month.

Oscar Perez Jarquin was presented to the press yesterday afternoon. Civil Guards arrested Perez Jarquin in Boca Tapada. At the time of his arrest, Perez Jarquin was carrying an AK-47 machinegun and many grenades.

2 Nicaraguan Soldiers Desert, Seek Asylum

PA0707031988 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Text] Two young EPS deserters entered Costa Rica at 1700 on 5 July. They came from Nicaragua and entered our country near the Los Tiles command post.

One of the deserters is Pedro Jose Castillo Rugama, 28, who deserted from the Fatima reservist battalion post near the border with Costa Rica. He entered our country carrying an AK-47, which he discarded. Costa Rican authorities are looking for the weapon in the area where he supposedly got rid of it.

The second deserter, who had already done his compulsory military service, is Hesnagri Salinas Narvaez, 22. Salinas came from El Castillo and entered our country unarmed.

Although the true causes of the desertions and the causes of the deserters' desire to seek asylum in Costa Rica remain unknown, it has been unofficially said that the desertions are caused by the very serious Nicaraguan political, social, and economic situation, which is caused by the unfair, unpopular measures imposed by the Ortega government.

Briefs

1988 Trade Deficit Figures

Costa Rican Central Bank President Eduardo Lizano Fait has reported that in the first 5 months of 1988, Costa Rican imports totaled $570 million while exports totaled $535 million, resulting in a $35-million trade deficit. Lizano said this year's figures, however, show a slight improvement in the trade balance compared to the one registered in this same period last year. [Summary] [*PA2506022988 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 18 Jun 88 p 6-A*]

El Salvador

Venceremos on Duarte Return to Country

PA1007223588 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Station Commentary]

[Text] [Vice President Rodolfo] Castillo Claramount's face showed dismay. He spoke in a treacherously premeditated tone to seek sympathy and expected Salvadorans to fall for this despicable trap. Castillo Claramount announced that Napoleon Duarte will return to the country.

Castillo used a shoddy tone of indignation and denied that Duarte is returning to the country to resign. He did not say if Duarte is in physical and moral shape to assume office. However, he dramatically insisted that Duarte will return.

[Culture and Communications Minister] Edmundo Viera, another professional impostor, could barely hold back his tears when he spoke of Duarte's health.

[Foreign Minister] Acevedo Peralta, another mediocre [words indistinct] of gossips, joined the group of those who are taking advantage of Duarte's disgrace.

They are all trying to make an inhuman political gain from Duarte's condition.

[Words indistinct] Reagan, Bush, and Abrams are also participating in the propaganda game. This vile campaign is receiving a big boost.

It is very useful for the Yankees for Duarte to spend his last days in El Salvador. They want to pragmatically use Duarte as a smokescreen. They are using Duarte to divert the people's attention from the country's main problems.

They want to spread a smokescreen over the nation's political debate. They want to use Duarte's last few days to even dissipate the grave and insurmountable internal problems of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], a party that is divided, demoralized, and eroded by corruption and the resounding failure of the counterinsurgency plan.

They are trying to use this worn-out man to shield themselves from the impact of the PDC's feuds. The PDC rank and file are those who wind up paying for all this. The PDC is hurt by division and massive dismissal. [Words indistinct] clear debacle, and the party's end.

The North Americans are that way and the immoral PDC parvenus support them. They announced, with Machiavellian pleasure, that reporters will not be allowed access to Duarte.

They announced that Duarte will not get the welcome he dreams of: a welcoming ceremony from the military, diplomats, with television coverage, and all the other things that have always elated Duarte, the megalomaniac.

It is repulsive to see the immoral use of this situation. Although Duarte is our political enemy, he is also a human being. He should be respected in his last and difficult moments.

The PDC rank and file must watch and objectively assess the deterioration of that party, that plan, and that government.

The PDC rank and file must seek an alternative [words indistinct] real and national solutions. It is an alternative that must include the respect for man among its inalienable principles.

Guatemala

Students Set Up Barricades in Guatemala City

PA0807194188 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1813 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Today groups of students from 10 state schools placed barricades in the downtown streets of Guatemala City for a 3d consecutive day, creating a chaotic traffic situation while the police did nothing.

Approximately 15,000 high school students are on strike to demand the government of President Vinicio Cerezo "immediately" repair the school buildings damaged by the earthquakes of May and June a year ago.

The students, who at first were only planning to protest by blocking the streets, later set up burning barricades.

Police spokesman Alvaro Portilla said that "for the time being" the authorities are observing the students' behavior and that about 100 riot police are ready to go into action, but "only at the request of Education Minister Ricardo Gomez Galvez."

The minister said that the students' demands "will be taken care of, and private construction firms have been hired for this."

The Guatemala City students are supported by students from 60 schools throughout the country, the Association of University Students (AEU), and the Unity of the People's and Trade Unions' Action (UASP), who feel the students' demands are "just."

Groups of youths, who were armed with sticks, did not allow firemen to get close to the area where the barricades were burning.

The Coordinating Board of Mid-Level Education Students (CEEM), with the support of the respective teachers from the state schools, have urged the students to maintain their actions "to the final consequences."

Rebels Kill Air Force Pilot in Huehuetenango

PA0907025688 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0116 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 8 Jul (DPA)—An Air Force pilot, Captain Edgar Rolando Villagran, died when guerrillas attacked the plane he was flying. The dead pilot was supporting an operation to rescue wounded soldiers in Barillas, Huehuetenango Department, in northwestern Guatemala, the Army's Information Office announced today.

A brief military report notes that the attack took place yesterday. The airplane's copilot was able to help Captain Villagran and flew the aircraft to Playa Grande, Quiche Department. The captain's wounds were very serious, however, and he died a few hours later. [passage omitted]

Guerrilla Commander Deserts; Army Finds Cache

PA0807225288 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 7 Jul 88 p 7

[Text] Guatemala City, 7 Jul—Commander "Adan," who commanded guerrilla forces in northern El Quiche, has turned himself in to military authorities.

"Adan," which is Gaspar de Leon's nom de guerre, commanded an insurgent unit operating in northern El Quiche.

Military Bulletin No 108-88 states that the guerrilla commander turned himself in at a patrol base in Cotzal, El Quiche.

"Adan" asked for protection, saying he wants to rejoin his family as soon as possible. He said that at the time he deserted the guerrilla forces he was a platoon commander.

Meanwhile, military patrols in El Quiche's military zone discovered a guerrilla "arms cache," where they found weapons, war materiel, and medicine.

The "arms cache" contained one M-79 grenade launcher, two M-14 rifles, two G-3 rifles, one M-16 rifle, and ammunition.

In addition, the following was also found: one pair of binoculars, eight Chinese-made RPG-2 grenades, two 60-mm mortar shells, and 5.56-mm, 7.62-mm, .45-caliber, and .30-caliber ammunition.

Other items found were field boots, flashlights, and first aid supplies.

Honduras

Clashes Between Contra Groups Near Border

PA0907003388 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 8 Jul 88 p 8

[Text] Yesterday a reliable source reported that an armed clash among members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] took place in the border area of El Paraiso, where the RN has been operating since the cease-fire with the Sandinist government.

The source told LA TRIBUNA that one of the contra commanders was seriously injured, possibly during an ambush, but he refused to identify the place and the reasons for the incident.

"I am sure one of the members of that group was wounded and later underwent an operation in a private clinic in the city of Danli to remove grenade fragments from different parts of his body," the source said.

Differences among the rebels apparently continue to adversely affect the unity of the so-called "freedom fighters" and reached their peak when dissident troops rebelled against top military leader Colonel Enrique Bermudez.

In the last few days, we have also received reports about problems faced by the fighters loyal to commanders Fernando, Tono, and others who had been expelled from the military leadership and deported from Honduras after the Sapoa agreements were signed.

Area residents have said that the difficulties faced by some of the rebels loyal to the dissident leaders are very serious, to the extent that they do not have enough supplies to survive.

It has been impossible to confirm this report because access to the area is limited and RN members maintain secrecy.

Suazo Cordova Cleared of Embezzlement Charges

PA0807233188 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 7 Jul 88 p 3

[Excerpt] Last night the Honduran National Congress approved a report clearing former President Roberto Suazo Cordova of charges filed against him by Deputy Jose Francisco Ramos.

Some time ago, Ramos requested an investigation regarding Suazo Cordova's handling of more than 50 million lempiras during November and December 1985.

Yesterday a special commission appointed by the legislative branch ruled in favor of the former president and presented a document from the Comptroller General's Office proving that there had been no embezzlement.

All Liberal deputies voted in favor of dismissing the charges against Suazo Cordova. However, National Party deputies voted against the dismissal of charges through a document presented by Deputies Carlos Torres Lopez and Franklin Bertrand Anduray, who expressed their disagreement with the decision. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

Riot Follows Opposition March in Nandaime

PA1007194888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1818 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] This morning gang members from the so-called civic opposition—unarmed contras—attacked Sandinist police in Nandaime at the end of a march put on by poor peasants taken from COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] members' farms. Conservative Party leader Mrs Miriam Arguello encouraged the incident. Here is a report from Roberto Gonzalez:

[Gonzalez] The Melton plan concluded sucessfully in Nandaime. Miriam Arguello was at this precise moment supposed to conclude a demonstration by the Ramiro Sacasa Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] in Nandaime. She is the one who incited those participating in the demonstration, which was was about to end at the Nandaime bullring. Miriam Arguello simply began to shout that the mobs were coming. People surrounding Miriam Arguello, armed with rocks, sticks, iron bars, and even knives, immediately began what became a real war, a battle against the policemen. People began throwing all sorts of things, injuring at least three policemen, who fell after being hit by large numbers of rocks and iron bars that the demonstrators were throwing.

Evidently the Melton plan was carried out here in Nandaime. The provocation came at the right moment, just as everything had almost concluded. Only the speakers—the so-called right-wing leaders from the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Coordinating Board—were waiting to deliver their speeches. Problems began when it looked as if everything was actually going to conclude without incident. Stones were thrown. Sticks and iron bars appeared, and several policemen were injured. Naturally, policemen who were there to maintain public order had to respond. Obviously, the police had to take action, and the demonstration was dispersed here in Nandaime at approximately 1130. This occurred at the moment when the so-called demonstration by the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Coordinating Board—part of the U.S. Government destabilization plan known in our country as the Melton plan—was about to end without incident.

Among those injured are the chief of the Granada Traffic Police. Sub-Commander Marcelino Guido, Interior Ministry delegate in Region Four, sustained serious injuries to his right arm. Other comrades also sustained

injuries. Some people were arrested by the Sandinist police at the bullring, which is located in the Oscar Turcios neighborhood of Nandaime city.

This activity concluded with the certainty that the Melton plan did work, because the provocation occurred when all that was pending were the speeches from the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board speakers. Miriam Arguello was addressing the crowd at the moment the incidents began. Immediately after the incidents began between the armed demonstrators and the police, leaders like Carlos Huembes, Justo Pastor Pacheco, and Manuel Salvador Jarquin fled the area. Others sought refuge in houses near the arena. At approximately 1140, Miriam Arguello was urged to get out of the house in which she had been hiding and to leave the area after causing the disturbance, because it is clear that U.S. imperialism and the U.S. Administration [words indistinct].

Further on Riot

PA1007204588 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1921 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] The Reagan administration's local workers fulfilled their goal of provoking incidents in Nandaime. Today the right-wing parties, LA PRENSA, and unarmed contras, known as the civic opposition, incited incidents and attacked police in Nandaime. Roberto Gonzalez has a report on this:

[Gonzalez] Miriam Arguello's attitude and her stirring up the crowd were decisive factors in provoking the crowd's attack on police today at the Nandaime bullring. This incident resulted in the arrest of 38 demonstrators and in 10 injured policemen. Some of the demonstrators were injured, according to reports from Sub-Commander Marcelino Guido, Interior Ministry delegate in Region Four. Among the people arrested by the Nandaime Police were Agustin Jarquin Anaya [president of one of the factions of the Social Christian Party] and Carlos Huembes, president of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board. Huembes did not keep the promise he made to the Interior Ministry when he was granted the permit for the demonstration, which was scheduled to begin at 1000 and was supposed to end at 1300.

According to Sub-Commander Guido, the leaders had been warned they should not provoke the authorities. In addition, they had been warned not to shout slogans as they were directed to by the U.S. Embassy, according to the Melton plan. Guido said there were between 2,300 and 2,500 demonstrators. He added that the demonstrators insulted police, threw rocks, and used clubs and other weapons. At the Nandaime police post, Guido showed newsmen three very sharp knives, a dagger, two machetes, and an iron bar about 26 inches long. These instruments were found among the 38 people arrested by the police, who will be prosecuted for disturbing the peace.

According to Guido's reports, the injured policemen are: Francisco Jose Lugo, Carlos Garcia, Angel Perez, Juan Rocha, Miguel Mercado, Noel Cuadra, Francisco Ugarte, German Alvarez, Lucio Lopez, and Antonio Martinez.

Government on Events

PA1107013888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0055 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Communique issued by the Public and International Relations Directorate of the Interior Ministry in Managua on 10 July]

[Text] The Interior Ministry reports that on Sunday, 10 July, during a public demonstration in Nandaime, authorized with the condition that those holding it would be held legally responsible, the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board provoked acts that violated order and public security laws—such as incitement to violence, disorder, and disrespect for authorities—as well as physically attacking public order authorities.

At the conclusion of the march, and in view of the increasing lack of respect shown by the organizers, which led to actions (?against) members of the Sandinist police, the police had to establish order. As a result, some of the demonstrators were slightly injured and 42 were arrested. The latter will be investigated to determine their responsibility for the events. Those arrested include Agustin Jarquin Anaya and Carlos Huembes.

In view of the aforementioned, the Interior Ministry warns leaders of organizations requesting permission to hold public demonstrations that they will be held responsible for any acts of violence that ensue.

Issued in Managua on 10 July 1988.

[Signed] Public and International Relations Directorate of the Interior Ministry

Ortega Justifies Arrests

PA1107031588 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0232 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Managua, 10 Jul (DPA)—Tonight Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra justified the arrest of 38 opposition leaders and activists in the southern city of Nandaime, saying this is a demonstration of how a "get tough" policy will be used when attempts are made to disrupt the country's institutional order.

Ortega said the U.S. Government is promoting a plan to destroy the Sandinist revolution by using mercenary forces (contras) and internal political forces, a plan that is being carried out by the parties of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board.

At the same time, it was learned that the CDN has released a communique accusing the government of provoking the violence during the opposition demonstration. "The police struck people and released tear gas bombs. They arrived wearing masks and swinging nightsticks," the rightist opposition communique states. [passage omitted]

"We are prepared to get tough," Ortega told newsmen when asked about the incidents in Nandaime. He added that the opposition groups of the CDN "are completing the political phase of the Reagan administration's military plan."

Ortega added that the opposition groups participating in the political plan are the U.S. Administration's "accomplices" in the crimes that are committed by the contras. Ortega made these remarks after visiting the home of the young student Johana Zavala Jimenes, 16, who was killed along with other youths yesterday when a mine placed by the contras destroyed a truck in the northern part of the country.

A group of relatives of youths who are performing their Patriotic Military Service and a folkloric dance troupe were on their way to visit the servicemen when the terrorist act was carried out on a road near the Mulukuku military post, about 180 km from Managua.

"Reagan is that girl's assassin, and the CDN opposition leaders are his accomplices," Ortega said. He said this leads to a violent response to the acts they commit. "We are continuing the halt in offensive operations, but we are also carrying out defensive operations, and we are on the trail of those who attacked the youths," he said.

The Nicaraguan president said those arrested in Nandaime will be brought to trial, but he did not give any details.

President Ortega on Economy, Culture

PA0907212088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1557 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Opening statement by President Daniel Ortega at a "Face the People" program with Nicaraguan artists at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua—live]

[Excerpts] Good morning, Comrades. You have had the opportunity in the past few days to discuss the cultural tasks in our revolutionary process. You have been talking about this topic with Comrade Bayardo [Arce]. Yesterday you spoke with Comrade Tomas [Borge]. Today we are holding this "Face the People" meeting with you artists who are part of the people. We are meeting with comrades who head the cultural activities and comrades who head activities that transcend the cultural activities but which are also related to culture. Officials of the revolutionary government are here with us.

I was reading some speeches in the first meeting with Bayardo which were quite controversial. Yesterday there was less controversy. This topic dealing with cultural creation, with artistic creation in the revolutionary process is naturally very complex, but I do not think it is as complex or any more complex than the economic problem.

I think the economic problem is more complex. We address and discuss the economic problem with the workers and peasants. There is creativity and culture in the collective effort of the workers of industry and in the collective effort of the rural workers. The workers have mastered economics. They express themselves clearly about it. They use simple but direct and clear words. They express criticism. They express self-criticism first and then they express criticism. They are also very willing to confront these difficult times that Nicaragua is facing so as to have better material, spiritual, and cultural conditions in the future. This means better overall conditions in every sense of the word. These would give Nicaraguans the opportunity to have basic food and minimum material conditions to be able to continue creating and producing in the material aspect and also to be able to continue creating and producing in the cultural and artistic aspects—in all those artistic expressions that spontaneously emerge from each and every Nicaraguan.

In the visits we have paid to some factories after we adopted the economic measures in June, we met with male and female workers in the factories near Managua and Granada. We have visited the Prosan [Sanitation Products of Nicaragua] and Intercasa factories. We found among the workers a great willingness to work and great confidence and therefore a great awareness and faith. They have great faith in themselves; not a faith and confidence in the government, but a great faith and confidence in their own effort. In this way, the government is a complementary element because the fundamental force is the workers. The workers are the fundamental force in facing the military and economic problems. [passage omitted]

We visited five farms on the outskirts of Matagalpa on Thursday. We met workers who have come from the city with great morale, a sense of responsibility, and enthusiasm. Many workers are needed in this area to keep coffee farms producing at their peak capacity. Much more labor is required to improve these farms, which could yield much more. For instance, the average coffee yield at the Santa Josefina farm, one of those we visited, has dropped to about 15 quintals per manzana. And this farm is located in a favorable area that could yield as much as 55 quintals per manzana.

It is true that outside factors, such as war and an unfair international economic system, stand in the way of this production figure. Yet we can do something to change this situation. With the help of the comrades who came from Managua, we are in the process of improving coffee production at this particular farm.

Finally, during our meeting with representatives of the various production units at a coffee processing installation, art manifested itself spontaneously. A peasant comprade stood in front of the microphone and said: I want to recite a line. And he recited a line against Reagan. This idea just came to his mind and out of his heart. We are not interested in the quality of his line, however. Another comprade came up with a stanza. We Nicaraguans are like this. [passage omitted]

To ensure that there will be educational and cultural activities [in Nicaragua], there must be production and the revolution must be defended. There is an interrelationship between the two. In order for us to be able to meet here—and I point this out every time we hold a meeting—thousands of Nicaraguans have died. This war that has been imposed upon us by the United States has claimed more than 60,000 casualties so far. If there had been no men willing to defend the revolution and die in combat, we would not be meeting here. [passage omitted]

We have successfully maintained minimum conditions despite the brutal aggression that Nicaragua has been suffering. We have successfully maintained minimum conditions to prevent a collapse in production, sustain production levels, and in certain aspects even raise production as has been done at those coffee plantations I mentioned, so that inflation will not get out of control.

What did I tell the teachers when I met with them? I told them: Well, comrades, if you demand larger salaries we will have to cut back education in this country because this country's economy does not yield enough to sustain more than 1 million Nicaraguan students. We have almost 1.2 million students. Must we surrender this right, this revolutionary accomplishment? Must we return to the past, when only 500,000 Nicaraguans could study?

We are also going to cut back on health programs, harming the progress that had been made in the area of medical attention and health needs. We are not renouncing our health and educational programs. We are keeping them even though they are beyond our financial means. The other day I did some calculations; I figured out Nicaragua's gross domestic product, adding up our national production, the donations we receive, our lines of credit, our commercial loans—because we still have commercial loans—and we have sold future coffee, sugar, and cotton crops for short-term loans that we pay in 6 months to 1 year at high interest rates, but we have no other way out.

If we add up all our production and import revenues, the total comes to about 90 billion cordobas. If we distributed this amount among all Nicaraguans, I do not know exactly how much that would be.

There may be 3.6 million or 4 million residents—some say there are 4 million inhabitants; that would not be surprising. The fact is that estimates indicate that if we add all of these factors, that which is described as gross domestic product—including donations and lines of credit from the USSR, the socialist countries, and the Nordic countries—if this were distributed to everyone, each Nicaraguan would receive a little over 17,000 cordobas. But 17,525 cordobas is the price of a minimum basket of 35 basic food products. In other words, if we divide the gross domestic product among all Nicaraguans, each of us would receive approximately 2,500 cordobas, and the minimum basket costs about 17,000 cordobas. Since we have included children, we can subtract a little, leaving each person approximately 7,500 cordobas, but this still leaves a 10,000-cordoba difference with regard to the minimum basket. [all figures as heard] That is our reality. Our reality is that we spend much more than what we produce and what we receive in donations and lines of credit. We spend a lot more. This is our situation. What, then, are we to do in response to this situation? What is left for us to do about these external and supply problems? We must improve our economic organization and we must call upon our political, ideological, and moral reserves. [passage omitted]

When we met with the teachers, we said there would have to be fewer of them. However, if we decrease the number of teachers, half the teachers would be left jobless while the other half could earn a double salary. But we cannot and will not do that. We must find other ways, perhaps take temporary measures such as those we took several days ago. We distributed some food to the sectors that do not participate in the cash incentives program. This food consists of 5 pounds of sugar, 10 pounds of rice, and 10 pounds of beans. Peasants were a little concerned about this measure, but we talked to them and they agreed to support it. [passage omitted]

Not everything is or can be perfect. We cannot compare the new Nicaragua, whose expansion in every field, including art, began after 19 July 1979, with the Nicaragua that remained closed to art prior to that date; when artistic expression was impossible. Nicaraguan artists were not supported. There was a marked dependence on the regime. Some artists, who were active as individuals in their fields, complied with that Nicaraguan government. [passage omitted]

I have talked to some comprades who have gone abroad on missions. They feel there is an art and culture crisis. We discussed this with Alfonso Guerra, an art critic. He thinks there is a crisis. Others, however, do not think there is a crisis. But to discuss this in depth would be to tackle a very complex and controversial topic.

We can say, however, that there are now more possibilities for creativity, both of men and women, in Nicaragua. There is now greater opportunity, not only for traditional cultural expressions, but for forms that were not cultivated in the past and that began to be cultivated after the triumph of the revolution. [passage omitted]

On Influence of Media

PA1007011888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2205 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Closing statement by President Daniel Ortega at a "Face the People" program with Nicaraguan artists at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The media issue was debated at this meeting and, in fact, the communications media in Nicaragua does not always deal with the issues we would like to see influence the Nicaraguan people's education. However, we must keep in mind certain realities that pose great challenges. Our situation tells us that at this point in time, cultural, artistic, and technological aspects have become so universal that we can no longer describe as bad certain capitalistic or imperialistic artistic or technological aspects. That depends on how they are used by society.

I understand the radio and television stations' problems in keeping an audience with a population that receives information and propaganda from the enemy through radio stations and newspapers that operate in our country and through the Costa Rican and Honduran television stations picked up in some areas of Nicaragua. I do not know how much we can do, how much we are endangering the overall strengthening of our people's ideological and political elements by mixing artistic and cultural manifestations that carry certain messages, which we receive by television, radio, and newspapers. This is an issue the media directors must constantly address to prevent a negative result. If the people become negative, our communications media will become agents of counterrevolutionary thought and disseminators of counterrevolutionary ideology.

As counterrevolutionaries [as heard], we cannot understand rock and roll, the music of the Beatles, Michael Jackson, and all the rest. However, these men's creativity does not belong to them, the individuals; they belong to the people and country they were born in. They are humanity's heritage. [passage omitted]

Defense Ministry Reports on Contra Attacks

EPS Major Killed

PA1107002588 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Communique No 7 issued by the Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Defense Ministry on 10 July]

[Text] The Defense Ministry reports that:

1. At 0800 on 10 July, counterrevolutionary forces loyal to former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez, in an open and flagrant violation of the unilateral cease-fire established by the revolutionary government, ambushed a military truck on a stretch of the road to Santo Domingo La Pinuela in Chontales Department.

2. As a result of this criminal act, Major Francisco Javier Hidalgo Espinoza, commander of the 54th Infantry Brigade, was murdered. The 54th Infantry Brigade was involved in routine tasks.

Issued in Managua on 10 July 1988.

[Signed] Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Defense Minstry

Civilians Killed

PA1007211888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1851 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Communique issued by the Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Defense Minstry on 10 July]

[Text] On 9 July, counterrevolutionary forces loyal to Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez, in an open violation of the unilateral cease-fire established by the revolutionary government, ambushed an IFA truck in the El Aparejo area, 10 km northeast of Rio Blanco, Matagalpa Department. The truck was traveling to the military training center in Mulukuku.

The truck was carrying a dance group from Mulukuku. The attack resulted in three dead, four injured, and four kidnapped.

The names of the dead are: Vilma Montiel, 17, a civilian from Managua; Alma Ruth Rocha, 35, a civilian from Managua; and a 20-yr-old civilian acquaintance, also from Managua. The names of those injured are: Isidro Cabrera Gutierrez, 17, a civilian from Managua; Carmen Cevallo, 45, a civilian from Managua, Vilma Montiel, 35, a civilian from Managua; and an unidentified person. Those kidnapped are: Allan Martinez, a 17-year-old civilian from Managua; Samuel Law, a 16-year-old civilian from Managua; Sergio George, an 18-year-old civilian from Managua; and Miguel Guevara, a civilian from Managua.

Issued in Managua on 10 July 1988.

8 Contras Killed

PA0907000588 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1229 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Bulletin issued by the Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Defense Ministry in Managua on 7 July]

[Text] Military actions carried out in response to counterrevolutionary attacks on our troops:

1. On 5 July, mercenary groups attacked our troops in a place known as (El Subterraneo), located northeast of El Cua, Jinotega Department. As a result, two mercenaries

were killed and three AK rifles, an M-79 grenade launcher, two Claymore mines, five knapsacks, two belts, eight pairs of boots, six overcoats, five blankets, four knives, seven uniforms, and seven pairs of batteries were confiscated.

2. Also on 5 July, counterrevolutionaries attacked our troops in a place known as (Saltoteco), located north of Muhan, in the southern Atlantic autonomous region. As a result, two mercenaries were killed and an AK rifle was confiscated.

3. On 6 July, our troops were attacked in a place known as Cerro Grande, located northeast of Boaco, Boaco Department. As a result, 2 mercenaries were killed and 2 AK rifles, 2 Claymore mines, 2 rolls of fuse, 6 AK magazines, 13 cartridge belts, and 2 knapsacks were confiscated.

4. Also on 6 July, a mercenary group attacked our troops in a place known as (La Angostura), located south of the Jose Benito Escobar camp, Chontales Department. As a result, two mercenaries were killed and an AK rifle and a G-3 rifle were confiscated.

Terrorist activities carried out against the civilian population and economic targets by mercenary forces loyal to Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez:

1. On 4 July, a mercenary group kidnapped six peasants in a place known as San Andres, located northwest of San Geronimo, Nueva Segovia Department.

2. On 6 July, a mercenary group ambushed a civilian vehicle in (Cerro El Carrobo), southeast of Juigalpa, Chontales Department. As a result, one civilian was injured and another was kidnapped.

Issued in Managua on 7 July 1988.

[Signed] Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Defense Ministry

4 Contras Die 7 July

PA0907152388 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] The Defense Ministry has reported that contra groups have continued to attack Sandinist fighters. Mercenary groups attacked EPS troops on Thursday [7 July] in the area known as (El Barrasal), southeast of El Serrano in the southern Atlantic region. Four contras were killed during the attack and two AK-47 rifles and one RPG-2 rocket launcher were seized. Sandinist troops have been ordered to fight only if attacked, thus abiding by the cease-fire decreed by the Nicaraguan Government through 31 July.

H. Ortega Letter to OAS Head, Obando on Contras

PA0907015088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2342 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Communique No 51 issued by the Information and Press Directorate of the Presidency in Managua on 8 July containing letter from Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra to OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo; dated 8 July]

[Text] Dear Sirs:

The number of counterrevolutionary actions has increased over the past few days. These are the most important:

A group of counterrevolutionaries kidnapped 11 civilians, including one child, 10 km southeast of Puerto Viejo, Chontales Department, on Wednesday, 29 June.

On Saturday, 2 July, five Indians, including two children, were killed and three more were injured during an attack with mortar and rifle fire from Honduran territory against the border town of San Carlos, Rio Coco Arriba, in the Autonomous Region of Northern Zelaya.

Two trucks were blown up with antitank mines 19 km southeast of Acoyapa, Chontales Department, on Monday, 4 July. Twelve people, including seven civilians, were killed and 10 more were injured. In addition, the Nicaraguan Government has reliable information that the conterrevolutionary leadership has instructed its men to increase their attacks with every means available, including U.S.-supplied surface-to-air missiles, against helicopters and other Nicaraguan Government aircraft.

The Nicaraguan Government has again and again reiterated its willingness to refrain from resuming offensive military operations. Because of this, we are asking that you, Messrs Baena Soares and Obando y Bravo, as members of the Verification Commission established by the Sapoa agreements, perform an on-site verification of the 4 July attack executed by the counterrevolutionaries, as mentioned in the first paragraph of this letter.

We are asking you to confirm that this attack constitutes a cease-fire violation. Because of this, we ask that Mr Baena Soares and the Verification Commission confirm this report, as specified in Paragraph 2, Article 9 of the Sapoa agreements.

The Nicaraguan Government also reiterates this to the Verification Commission:

1. We are still waiting for a reply from Alfredo Cesar to my 19 and 24 June proposals and to our official Communique No 48 dated 30 June.

2. The counterrevolutionaries have not yet complied with their pledge to release 66 of the people they have admitted to kidnapping. In addition, they have not replied to our request to allow the International Red Cross or the Verification Commission to confirm the number and identities of the people kidnapped and who are being held in contra camps and bases. The Nicaraguan Government expects Sublieutenant Helmuth Elles Maravilla to be included among those released by the counterrevolutionaries.

3. Despite the Nicaraguan Government's repeated offers, the counterrevolutionaries have not yet expressed approval for the Inter-American Development Foundation to be in charge of delivering humanitarian aid to the counterrevolutionary forces in Nicaraguan territory until a permanent cease-fire agreement is reached.

Finally, the Nicaraguan Government reaffirms its willingness to hold a new, high-level round of talks in Managua on 26, 27, 28, and 29 July and the necessary preliminary meetings.

[Signed] Humberto Ortega Saavedra, Army General and Defense Minister

Managua, 8 July 1988

For a worthy peace; free fatherland or death!

[Signed] Information and Press Directorate of the Presidency

Panama

Station Calls Solis; Resignation Rumors Denied

PA0807224988 Panama City Radio Alegre in Spanish 2209 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Report by Station Manager Aris De Icaza]

[Text] There have been rumors since early this morning that Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, has resigned. We remain, as always, cool, objective, and professional; this is a characteristic of our news department. Because of this, we have not until now even mentioned the rumor.

However, since the rumor was becoming a source of alarm, approximately 30 minutes ago we called the office of the Presidency of the Republic and spoke with the minister in charge of the Presidency. The rumor is false and negative, as we have said. It is negative and false. We are repeating this so that no one can say that we have said anything different, as our news director Ramon Jimenez Velez would say.

We repeat: Approximately 30 minutes ago we spoke with the minister in charge of the Presidency and he confirmed that everything is going on as usual. He is meeting right now with his labor minister.

Officials' Denials Cited

PA1107005488 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0007 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Text] Panama City, 10 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Today official sources categorically denied persistent rumors about an alleged resignation by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Panamanian Presidency.

The sources, which asked not to be identified, noted that Solis is still leading the executive branch and that he has not left the country. These sources added that there is no division within the spheres of power, thus rejecting rumors circulating in opposition circles in the past few days.

According to the rumors, Solis, who replaced Eric Arturo Delvalle in the executive branch in late February, had resigned and left the country.

This is only a new stage of the psychological war against Panama to destabilize the government, the official source stated.

The rumors, which began early in the week, became more presistent by Friday, when the progovernment "Channel 2" television network, in an effort to put an end to these rumors, showed clips of Solis meeting with government politicians, clips that could very well be file tapes.

In opposition circles, the rumors of Solis' resignation were based on the fact that while Delvalle was accused of not governing, Solis is accused of "wanting to govern too much."

Delvalle Does Not Attend Mother's Funeral

PA0807204088 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1916 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Panama City, 8 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Panama's ousted president, Eric Arturo Delvalle, did not attend the funeral of his mother, Mrs Abigail Henriquez de Delvalle. The former president has been in hiding since February, and an arrest warrant has been issued against him.

The former president's mother died Wednesday in Miami, Florida, at the age of 71. Her remains were brought to Panama for burial. She will be buried at the city's "Jardin de Paz." [passage omitted]

Ritter on U.S. Relations, Congressional Visit

PA1107023388 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Report by Alberto Sanchez on statements by Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] During a special meeting of the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] National Directorate, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter reiterated that

relations between the United States and Panama are practically nonexistent. He added that the U.S. congressmen who arrived in our country have not contacted the Panamanian Government. Let us listen to his remarks:

[Ritter] "They have made no contact with the government. They have met with members of the progovernment and opposition political parties, but there has been no formal contact with the Panamanian Government."

The foreign minister also commented on the removal [desalojo] of U.S. Embassy officials from Panama.

[Ritter] "There has been no reaction from the Foreign Ministry. As you know, relations between the Foreign Ministry and the U.S. Embassy are nonexistent, practically nil. Therefore, the United States is perfectly free to remove or recall some of its officials. I have absolutely no comment to make on this subject."

In addition, Foreign Minister Ritter said he knows nothing about any possible reduction of the working hours of Panamanians employed by the Panama Canal Commission.

[Ritter] "I have not been informed of any such decision. There has been a lot of talk about this, but the Foreign Ministry has received no official information in this regard."

Church Willingness to Mediate Crisis Reiterated

PA0907154288 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Interview With Msgr Oscar Brown, auxiliary bishop of the Metropolitan Curia, by unidentified reporter in Panama City on 8 July—recorded]

[Text] [Brown] The church is willing to contribute to a peaceful solution to the crisis. It must be understood, however, that the church can only mediate if the sides in conflict accept and seek this mediation. It is not enough for one side to be willing to accept the mediation if the other is not. Therefore the church, now as in the past, is expressing its willingness to help in finding a peaceful solution.

I must also take advantage of this opportunity to stress that this problem has lasted too long. An urgent solution must be found, and the Panamanian people must find it. A solution is still possible, but every day that passes the quality of life in Panama increasingly deteriorates. We must put an end to this situation.

[Reporter] The press has reported that some in the church have said that the church should play a more direct role in solving the national crisis. Would the church put aside its intentions of mediating to play a more direct role, to call the different political forces in the country to a dialogue? Is this true? What can you tell us about this?

[Brown] I do not know if a prelate spoke to the press. The church has a mission to fulfill, and it is aware of this mission, which is to be the symbol of the kingdom of God and the means through which to reach that kingdom. You can be absolutely sure that the church will do everything in its power to help Panamanians overcome the problems we all face.

Argentina

Alfonsin Addresses Armed Forces on Anniversary

PY0807174088 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0006 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Speech by President Raul Alfonsin to Armed Forces leaders at Army headquarters in Buenos Aires commemorating independence anniversary—live]

[Excerpts] Mr Vice President of the nation, Mr President of the Chamber of Deputies, Mr President of the Supreme Court, Mr Minister of Justice, Mr Minister of Defense, Messrs Chiefs of the General Staff, Messrs officers:

Tonight I have the honor of presiding for the fifth time over this dinner of comradeship of the nation's Armed Forces, a tradition in which the men in arms and their commanders in chiefs celebrate another anniversary of the declaration of independence of the fatherland. [passage omitted]

The example of our forefathers will prevail among the members of the Armed Forces, to overcome sectarian threats to their own institutional structure, and to the state of law.

In the recent past, the Armed Forces were once again tested. Their response was categorical. The rebellious spirit was overcome. Discipline has been restored. Respect for hierarchy has been consolidated. In sum, military honor has continued to strengthen the spirit of our Armed Forces.

In Argentina today there is no room for those who confront the institutions established by the Constitution. Therefore, the people and government of the nation must not fail to recognize the efforts made by the Armed Forces in defense of our republican system of government. Their members have lived up to the prestige of their most illustrious forefathers, and like them, they have boldly faced hardships, adversities, and pain in an effort to enhance the fatherland by strengthening its institutions.

Gentlemen, when we meet again next year to celebrate our independence anniversary, we will all be participating in the culmination of this transition period. This period of transition, after many decades, will allow a leader legitimately elected by the people to leave his chair and be replaced by another citizen who has also been chosen by the people. That will be an appropriate occasion to assess the transition period. I believe today is an appropriate occasion to praise the role played by the Armed Forces in the democracy that is definitely being consolidated. Therefore, it is an occasion to comment on some of the most important conflicts affecting the world and their repercussions on our country. [passage omitted]

The Argentine Republic exercises a peaceful and nonaggressive foreign policy. We strive for negotiated solutions to conflicts. In every case we make a great effort to resolve situations that could lead to demonstrations of force. However, the final decision to resort to violence in international relations is in the hands of the concert of nations. Therefore, we need an efficient, modern military that has adjusted to our country's needs. Although, the chance of this type of conflict is remote, it demands that we reflect maturely.

The policies of the nation's civilian government are based primarily on freedom and the interests of our fatherland and its inhabitants, which represent the starting point for the development of the strategic plan that will allow the effective fulfillment of these national objectives.

Gentlemen, we already have a national defense law that specifically refers to military activities. This law has served as the framework for the planning, training, and research and development of the military. In this regard, and thanks to the great effort of the Defense Ministry and the chiefs of staff, the necessary grounds have been established to allow better professional training of the forces to fulfill their duties and thus contribute to a joint, effective, and harmonious military action.

The economic situation certainly affects all areas of government. The democratic government has been forced to make the needs of its defense budget compatible with the level of sacrifice to be made in the investment and economic fields, in accordance with what it deemed acceptable for the nation. We have attempted to permanently harmonize the funds available for the reorganization of the Armed Forces.

We have thus started to gradually reequip the Armed Forces and continue to comply with the naval construction program and to develop other projects jointly with other countries.

In the operational field, we have intensified the tasks related to the defense of our sovereignty in all spheres. This was achieved not only as a result of better administration, but also because of the effort and spirit and willingness of the Armed Forces members to sacrifice..

All this has led us to increase the training of the different cadres; to restructure the career plans of officers and noncommissioned officers; to adjust the routine and operational roles, the deployment of the units, and the organization of support for the forces in combat, so as to face any eventual challenge with creativity and self-denial. This creativity and self-denial will allow us to continue the development of not only military operations, but also of production for defense so as to provide for the specific needs of national defense in an adequate and timely fashion.

Perhaps, due to disagreements in the past, the country still lacks the capacity to adequately consider the national defense issue. In an attempt to implement this defense, however, we are continuing to work on the plans that are aimed at modifying the curricula of civilian and military institutes, and it is our desire to stimulate integration and the ever-increasing complementarity between military schools and universities.

One of the greatest achievements that this government can proudly boast about is the intense professionalization of our Armed Forces. However, although well-trained professionals who can solve military conflicts are required to conduct national defense tasks, these tasks also call for the help of citizens who are concerned with defense matters and who can maintain permanent and institutional talks with the Armed Forces, as this occurs in all developed countries.

Any defense system that attempts to limit its major effectiveness to the exclusive use of military forces is doomed to fail. The defense task is to be assumed by all sectors of any complex and pluralistic society. We can only say that a society fully succeeds in assuming its defense when it is able to preserve its sovereign identity and its independence with freedom and justice.

This is the aspiration of the Argentine people and this is the clearly adopted decision of the Argentine Armed Forces.

Military professionalism and a good social understanding of defense problems are part of the process which we have repeatedly referred to as the modernization process. The modernization process we want for our fatherland is not the result of indifference toward absolute values, but of a pluralism that respects the rights of the people. The modernization process we want for our fatherland does not mean copying foreign formula which have no relation to our national identity. It consists of the recognition and the confirmation of progress which has been obtained through freedom.

When we talk about modern Armed Forces, we talk about military schools with university level education; we talk about reorganizing the forces to realistically face the possibility of modern-day conflicts; and we talk about respect for the hierarchy that was established by the Constitution and the laws.

We all realize that these goals go beyond the limitations of a government and are part of the democratic rationality that is supported by Argentines. [passage omitted]

This is also a date to recall the pain shared by all Argentines, the particular feeling of our men in arms, and the memory of our heroes in the South Atlantic. All this strengthens our commitment of not giving up our just demands for the recovery of our sovereignty over the Malvinas and South Atlantic islands.

Gentlemen, once again I have the honor to invite you to continue to defend the ideals that have characterized the thoughts and actions of the great captain of the Andes [General San Martin], who is your permanent inspiration. These ideals will allow you to be faithful to the principles of freedom and consistent with the Republican mission of the Armed Forces. They will allow you to continue to be, together with the other national institutions, submitted to the powers established in the Constitution and to form the foundations of the future Argentina for which all Argentines are living, suffering, and anticipating.

Let us make our fatherland be born again everyday. Let the anniversary of our independence unite us, as it is uniting us today, to confirm our national identity, and to help us pursue our common ideals in this hard, daily task of being Argentina. Thank you.

Defense Minister Speaks

PY0907184388 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jul (TELAM)—Today Defense Minister Jose Jaunarena said in his Independence Day message to the armed and security forces that we are marching in the right direction, aware of the fact that realistic, harmonic, and coherent solutions will only be found through permanent interaction between the Defense Ministry, the Armed Forces, and each branch of the military. He said this idea is an implicit objective that we must permanently follow.

Jaunarena added that the best homage to the memory of those who, with a highly patriotic feeling, bequeathed us our sovereign condition will be to comply with our assignments with dedication and effort.

Jaunarena's message was read today at the Joint Staff building and sent as a radiogram to all the military and security units. The ceremony consisted of a troop formation, the defense minister's greetings, and the singing of the national anthem, after which Jaunarena read his message.

The defense minister said that the results obtained from joint work, dedication, and effort in the study of the different factors of responsibility, finally consolidated at all levels, has established the basis for integration, an essential requisite for a permanent military instrument.

Finally, he praised the patriotism and dedication to service of the Armed Forces members who are complying with their assignments in each corner of the territory, with the relentless duty of consolidating peace and integrity in this nation.

Officers Circle Sees Impending 'Decadence'

PY0807013788 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Jul 88 p 4

[Text] The Armed Forces Officers Circle [El Centro de Oficiales de las Fuerzas Armadas] has issued a statement declaring that "nobody can really deny that a few years ago, very few years ago, our country started a rapid decline toward complete decadence that threatens to bring difficult and unpredictable developments."

The statement says that "a degraded system demands substantial changes based on moral and intellectual values as the only means to pull out of this threatening situation."

The statement was read at the annual camaraderie luncheon "on the 172d independence anniversary," held by the Officers Circle at its headquarters at 161 Quintana Street.

The luncheon was attended by, among others, former Presidents General Roberto Marcelo Levingston and General Reinaldo Bignone; Lieutenant General Pascual Pistarini, former commander in chief of the Army; former War Secretary General Juan Bautista Loza; former SIDE Director Eduardo Senorans; Generals Osiris Villegas and Genaro Diaz Bessone; former Air Force Commander Brigadier Carlos Conrado Armanini; and—on behalf of Lieutenant General Dante Caridi—the chief of the Arsenals Division, General Gargiulo.

Also present at the event were Vice Admiral Leandro Mateo Beltran Maloberti, the president of the Officers Circle, and Vice Presidents Colonel Carlos A. Carabba (Army), Rear Admiral Jorge Alfredo Bassi (Navy), and Vice Commodore Juan Manuel Coll Areco (Air Force).

Also attenting were Brigadier General Guillermo B. Fonseca, president of the Officers Club; Vice Admiral Jorge A. Desimoni, president of the Naval Center; Brigadier Nestor Royo, president of the Air Force Circle; Major Brigadier Federico Carlos Alsogaray and Colonel Oigimer Nereo Silva Ballbe, former directors of the Officers Circle; representatives of the Joint Staff; and representatives of the Army, Navy, and Air Force staffs.

After the national anthem was sung, several messages of support for the event were read. To close the event, Washington Ramos, acting president of the Officers Circle's Cultural and Public Relations Department, read the statement analyzing the national situation from the ideological, political, and institutional viewpoints.

The document states that "we have never been so pressured by an aberrant idea as we have by the Marxist idea that tries to distort our way of thinking and our feeling as Argentine citizens."

"Perversion is everywhere, at all levels, seeking to undermine our pure Christian faith and Western roots," says the document.

It adds that "in addition, we want to mention a no less worrisome fact, the daily indifference to this infectious state of affairs and the lack of appropriate reaction."

The document says that "the lack of awareness among a large percentage of the population places the institutional future on a path of a predictable failure."

"To quote Article 16 of our Constitution, 'all inhabitants are equal before the law and are able to hold any post without any prerequisite other than their competence.' To ignore this article is another offense."

In this regard the Officers Circle "emphatically" points out the need for this competence as a requirement "to hold a post in the public administration; but instead, we see that competence is constantly despised and unscrupulously replaced by mediocrity."

Regarding the institutional aspect, the Officers Circle believes that the Armed Forces have "emerged victorious in the tactical field against unpatriotic subversion," but they "now witness with astonishment the reactivation and resurgence of terrorist groups determined to recover lost ground." The Officers Circle notes that all the Armed Forces "preserve General San Martin's ideals, high spirits, and firm esprit de corps."

The document states that "as proof that political ambitions are unbridled when the ends justify the means, a few days ago we witnessed with great dismay how the presidential hopefuls resorted to insults and offenses in their electoral campaign."

The document points out that "these are our future leaders, the examples for Argentina's youth," adding that "this, gentlemen, is obviously not the best way to achieve national unity."

Menem Wins Justicialist Party Elections

PY1007023988 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0217 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jul (TELAM)—Carlos Menem, the virtual winner of the Justicialist Party elections, said in a press conference that the presidential ticket he heads with Eduardo Duhalde cannot be changed.

In a press conference held at 2100 at La Rioja Province House, located on Callao and Cordoba Streets, Menem said he does not accept the proposal made by Duhalde to step down in favor of another candidate.

Menem said they are going to go to the 1989 elections with the Menem-Duhalde ticket.

Cafiero Expresses Support

PY1007025488 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0240 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jul (NA)—Todnight Antonio Cafiero, the defeated Peronist candidate, said that "I am putting all my democratic spirit, my Peronist spirit, and my patriotism" at the service of winner Carlos Menem.

Cafiero's statement is the first expression by the defeated Peronist sector in favor of party unity and in support of virtual presidential candidate Carlos Menem.

Election Returns Released

PY1007030488 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0202 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jul (NA)—The following official results of the Justicialist Party elections were released at 2245.

With a total of 12,051 voting stations counted, and with 2,784 voting stations yet to be counted, the results are:

Menem-Duhalde: 735,799 votes (53.02 percent).

Cafiero-De la Sota: 641,163 votes (46.2 percent)

Julio Romero: 3,148 votes (0.23 percent)

According to the official report, there were 7,574 blank and null votes.

Iranian Envoy Organizes 'Solidarity' March

PY0907133388 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0241 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jul (TELAM)—Today Iranian Representative of Ayatollah Khomeini, Hojjat Ol-Eslam Moshen Rabbani harshly condemned the criminal and cowardly—as he termed it—attack of the United States against Iran, when it downed an Iranian passenger airplane on 3 July. He said that the incident was not a mistake, and he called on Argentines to join a solidarity march with the Iranian people on 11 July.

The July march is to begin at 1830 at the intersection of Florida Street and Corrientes Avenue in this capital.

A communique was delivered during a news conference at the ATE [Association of State Workers] offices at No 2527 Belgrano Street. According to the communique, Iran condemns the United States for the attack on an Iranian airplane during which 66 children, 52 women, and 172 men were murdered with impunity.

The communique states the support of the following people, among others: Deputies Roberto Digon and Carlos Rosales (PJ) [Justicialist Party]; Raul Rabanaque Caballero (PI) [Intransigent Party]; Graciela Fernandez Meijide and Nora Cortinas, of the founders of the Plaza de Mayo Mothers; Marcelo Vensentini (PI Youth); Friar Antonio Pugjane and Jorge Banos (from the Everyone for the Fatherland Movement) [Todos por la Patria]; Victor de Gennaro (ATE); and Eduardo Jozami (from CRISIS magazine).

The document stresses that the U.S. act was not a mistake, but a deliberate crime planned in detail.

Province Workers Reject U.S. Envoy's Visit

PY0807173288 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1434 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Resistencia, 8 Jul (DYN)—U.S. Ambassador Theodore Gildred, who has been declared an "honored guest" by the government of Chaco Province for his upcoming visit, was also declared "persona non grata" by an assembly of state workers last night.

The assembly, which was held to discuss the salary problem, decided to hold a 24-hour strike on 12 July in demand of a salary increase, and to withdraw from the salary council.

The repudiation of Gildred's visit was made in solidarity with Iran as a result of the shooting down of an Iranian passanger plane by a U.S. Navy missile, which caused the death of almost 300 people.

Five Civilians Sentenced for Airport Seizure

PY0907124488 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0109 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 8 Jul (TELAM)—The Federal Court of Appeals has convicted five of the seven civilians involved in the seizing of the Metropolitan Airport for rebellion, armed coercion, and interruption of air traffic. The civilians were sentenced to prison terms ranging from 9 to 12 years; two others were acquitted.

In a decision of over 100 pages, the court convicted lawyer Oscar Hugo Calzada to 12 years in prison; physicians Enrique Calzada, the lawyer's brother, and Alberto Telias, to 11 years in prison (the previous individuals were Air Force intelligence service agents); and Rafael Cobo to 9 years in prison.

The decision was read by Judges Horacio Cattani, Fernando Archimbal, and Juan Cortelezzi. The court acquitted Air Force Intelligence Agent Daniel Cedres and Federal Police Corporal Juan Arvisa, retired.

In the decision, the court ruled that the seizing of the Metropolitan Airport involved rebellion, an armed uprising which challenged national constitutional powers, and—although temporarily—it halted the Air Force alert that had been ordered by the president in his capacity of Armed Forces commander in chief. [passage ommitted]

Former Communist Party Leader Joins New Trend

PY1007031988 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1340 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jul (NA)—Today former PCA leader Ruben Iscaro announced his adherence to the new internal trend called "Trend in Defense of the 16th PCA Congress," and he described as "anti-Leninist" the change in political direction of the current PCA board.

In a press communique released today, Iscaro held PCA leaders Athos Fava, Patricio Echegaray, and Jorge Pereyra responsible for "destroying the party's ideology and organization" by implementing a "confusing, ultra-leftist, and guerrilla-like policy linked to a cannibalistic method of organization."

Iscaro admitted that he was the "first to be expelled from the PCA" for denouncing "a suspicious plan to take over the party's leadership, taking advantage of the death of the party's main founders and of some old militants."

In this manner, Iscaro, who was presidential candidate for a brief period until the PCA decided to give its votes to the FREJULI [Justicialist Liberation Front] in 1983, established his internal policy and joined the internal trend led by Oscar Arevalo.

Over the past few days this "Trend in Defense of the 16th PCA Congress" has requested authorization from the electoral court to operate as an internal trend, something not covered in the political parties law.

However, it is appropriate to mention that no political party law denies the existence of internal trends, and only the Integration and Development Movement (MID) denies the existence of such trends.

In his statement Iscaro expressed the feeling of "the old members who still live, have been defamed and expelled with no right of defense whatsoever," after the profound self-criticism generated during the 16th Congress held at the beginning of last year.

Bolivia

Vice President Lauds New Narcotics Law

PY0907143588 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] The approval of the Law of Special Regulations for Coca and Controlled Substances is an essential step in the fight against drug trafficking and it will allow the country to regain its credibility with the international community regarding the political will that exists in Bolivia to confront this scourge.

This was said by Vice President Julio Garrett Aillon, who also stated on Friday that the lack of legislation regarding drug trafficking served as a pretext for the international organizations charged with repressing or evaluating these crime to act incorrectly.

The vice president stated that the effort made by the Chamber of Deputies must be continued in the Senate so that the law will be approved in this extraordinary session of Congress.

He announced that the law will be debated in the Senate beginning 12 July.

Garrett believes the modifications that have been approved by the lower chamber will be accepted by the Senate, and he said that he does not believe there will be any need to call a plenary session of Congress, which is the organ that must debate any disagreement between the two chambers over the law.

The vice president stated that as soon as the Senate has approved the bill sent to it by the lower chamber, it will be sent immediate to the executive branch for its promulgation.

Finally, he said that the Senate's Constitutional Committee on Friday began to study all the details inherent to the bill with the purpose of submitting a report to the Senate's plenum as soon as possible.

Details of Law

PY0807161488 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2010 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] La Paz, 7 Jul (EFE)—According to the main articles of the Law of Special Regulations for Coca and Controlled Substances in Bolivia, drug traffickers can be sentenced to prison for anywhere between 5 and 25 years.

This law has been debated for the past 3 days amid protests of the coca producers and the opposition parties that it will provoke social conflicts.

The chapter pertaining to coca production, which has 36 articles and was approved yesterday, defines three types of coca cultivation.

The first type of coca production, considered to be "legal," will be used for the traditional chewing of the leaves and for medicinal and ritual purposes.

The second type, known as "transition" cultivation, calls for plans to replace coca plantations within a period of 1 year.

The third type is designated "illegal" cultivation. The law specifies that all plantations not included in the first two types will be eradicated by force.

This chapter also calls for the eradication of 48,000 of the existing 60,000 hectares of coca plantations over a period of 7 years.

Early this morning Congress approved 49 of the 84 articles pertaining to controlled substances.

The congressmen defined these substances as "medicines or drugs that are capable of altering the corporal, psychological, and biological structures and functions that cause dependence or tolerance."

The approved articles call for 5- to 15-year prison sentences for the manufacturers of controlled substances, and 10- to 25-year sentences for drug traffickers.

Those who work in the process of macerating the coca leaf, who are known as "coca stompers," will be sentenced to 1 to 2 years in prison.

The sowers and harvesters of the "controlled plants" (plantations) will be sentenced to 2 to 4 years, while the transporters will get 8- to 12-year sentences.

In addition, the importers, pharmacists, and doctors who introduce or sell controlled substances for medical or any other type of research without prior authorization will receive jail terms or be fined.

The deputies will continue to debate the last 35 articles until they fully approve the Law of Special Regulations for Coca and Controlled Substances, which will go into effect in the very near future.

Minister Critizes COB for Coca Law Stance

PY0807025988 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Dr Juan Carlos Duran, interior, migration, and justice minister, has characterized as subversive the COB attitude of promoting resistance to the law on coca production. He added that this is an anti-democratic attitude, because it tends to provoke disobedience for a law that has been approved by a branch of the state.

He also stated that this unjustified and demagogic stance of the COB will not produce the results it is expecting. Minister Duran then criticized the COB leaders' lack of responsibility, stating that they are not defending the interests of the population properly.

Minister Duran reasserted that the government will continue to implement the law on coca production, since this law has been approved by a body instituted by the country's Constitution. [passage omitted]

Report Blames Government, DEA in Tunari Events

PY0907163488 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] The inter-institutional commission that visited the Chapare region has reported that the responsibility for the incident that occured in Villa Tunari must fall on the government, members of UMOPAR, and the DEA.

Having conlcuded their investigation at the site of the incidents, the congressmen who made up the commission have arrived at conclusions that differ from the official explanation provided by executive branch authorities.

The report states that on the basis of the evidence that has been collected, it has been established that the Villa Tunari campesinos' objective was to take over installations of the Coca Reconversion Directorate [Direccion de la Reconversion de la Coca], DIRECO, not UMOPAR installations.

The two people who were killed and the several wounded people prove that the shooting was one-sided. The members of UMOPAR did the shooting; the campesinos did not use weapons.

The report states also that UMOPAR members did not suffer any casualties. The death of a soldier that was announced on 27 June probably did not occur on that date, but 5 days before the Villa Tunari incident.

It has also been established that the Chimari UMOPAR unit operated jointly with U.S. DEA and/or U.S. military or para-military advisors. But, it has not been established whether they used chemicals or firearms against the campesinos.

The investigative commission collected samples of plant leaves and earth on which herbicides had been experimented.

The report also states that the commissions' members learned that Hector Mendoza, DIRECO director, in remarks to the Cochabamba press admitted that that type of experiment had been carried out.

The unofficial inter-institutional commission stressed that it has been informed of several charges of abuse by UMOPAR members, such as extortion and bribes.

On the basis of the investigation, the commission members recommend that government authorities and Congress reformulate the Law of Special Regulations for Coca and Controlled Substances.

The commission members also state that a just compensation must be given to the victims' relatives, who are now utterly destitute.

The commission also recommends that a rigorous investigation be carried out to evaluate the degree of responsibility of the perpetrators of the Villa Tunari incident.

It also recommends the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. military and para-military units, the DEA agents, and that UMOPAR be thoroughly reorganized.

The commission members also request that the abuse carried out by UMOPAR members against the region's campesinos and inhabitants be punished, and that charges which indicate large quantities of [words indistinct] are allowed through UMOPAR checkpoints be investigated.

Simon Reyes, the COB's secretary general, and Deputies Roger Cortes, Jorge Luis Gutierrez, Victor Hugo Cardenas, and Roger Villegas participated in the news conference.

Brazil

Finance Minister on Payment of Debt Principal

PY1107015388 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0058 GMT 11 Jul 88

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 10 Jul (AF)—Brazilian Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega has stated that Brazil will pay a percentage of the principal of its foreign debt, due between 1991-93, to show that there is good will to resume foreign debt payments.

According to Nobrega, in 1991 Brazil will pay 5 percent of the principal due that year and in the next 2 years it will pay 10 and 15 percent, respectively, of the principal due in 1992 and 1993.

These payments will take place during the 8-year grace period that Brazil obtained from the committee of banks on 22 June when it reached a preliminary agreement to reschedule its medium- and long-term debts to private banks over a 20-year period.

According to Nobrega, these payments will prove Brazil's decision to resume the amortization of its foreign debt which, according to the Brazilian Central Bank, amounted to $121.3 billion in December 1987.

For the preliminary accord between Brazil and the commercial banks to go into effect, it will have to be approved by 95 percent of the 700 banks to whom Brazil owes money.

Reportage on Finance Minister's Visit to Japan

Takeshita Pledges Debt Aid

OW0707135788 Tokyo KYODO in English 1054 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] Tokyo, July 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita pledged Thursday to Brazilian Finance Minister Mailson de Nobrega that Japan will cooperate as much as possible in the reconstruction of Brazil's debt-plagued economy, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Nobrega, who had a 20-minute talk with Takeshita at the prime minister's official residence, called for financial assistance as part of Japan's 20 billion dollar recycling program to help ease the country's massive 114.5 billion dollar debt problem, the official said in a briefing to reporters.

The Brazilian finance minister also requested a loan of 5.5 billion dollars to finance 19 projects in the country and Takeshita vowed that Japan will cooperate as much as it can, the official said.

Nobrega was quoted as saying his country is making efforts to restore its international credit and to revitalize its economy through cutting the deficits of public works, modernization of industry, privatization of national enterprises and deregulations.

Brazil will reach agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on new loans in late July and seek an early agreement with the Paris Club, Nobrega said.

The club will decide whether to resume substantial aid package to Brazil five months after the country halted interest payments on its external debts in February.

Takeshita told Nobrega he respects Brazil's efforts to reconstruct its economy and meet the stringent fiscal requirements laid down by the IMF.

The Brazilian finance minister delivered a letter from President Jose Sarney to Takeshita inviting the Japanese premier to visit his country some time next year, and Takeshita replied that he would like to.

Nobrega arrived in Tokyo last Saturday on a seven-day official visit to seek economic support from the Japanese Government and private sectors.

Nobrega Meets Businessmen

PY0907175588 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 7 Jul 88 p 5

[Text] Tokyo—Yesterday evening, Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega said that "the Constituent Assembly is going to break the country." He made this statement in commenting on Japanese businessmens' concerns over restrictions imposed by the Constituent Assembly on the austerity economic policy.

Mailson asserted that "we will adopt the necessary compensary measures to enable us to fulfill our main goals," thus answering a question by Mitsubishi Chairman Yoei Mimura. During the meeting that the minister held with Keidanren (the largest industrial federation in the world), Mimura said that the economic measures proposed by Mailson are necessary but difficult to implement, taking into account the current Brazilian political situation (clearly referring to the Constituent Assembly).

Mailson agreed with Mimura and admitted that there are some exaggerations (exageros) in the Constitution, but added that it is still not definite. He explained that the document will be subjected to another, second-round vote. The minister said that the government will make every effort possible, with the help of the media and business sector, to fully inform the members of the Constituent Assembly about the effects of some of the measures they approve. He mentioned, as some of the most important measures, the pardoning of the debts of small and medium size farms and small enterprises, the regulation of interest rates, and retirement benefits.

However, he noted that the Constitution also has its goods points such as the new budget system, that will allow Congress to control government expenditures. Mailson added that the criteria used to define a foreign enterprise (one of the concerns expressed by the businessmen) will not keep foreign capital from coming into Brazil.

The minister told the media that "if we are not able to cut back these excesses and their implementation starts to hinder the country's development, the Brazilian people will eventually reject them." He believes that if the Constitution is passed with those measures considered to be exaggereted, the people will elect new representatives.

The minister admitted to some 30 important businessmen gathered at the Keidanren that there are some difficulties in fulfilling the goals due to the fact that Brazil is experiencing "a delicate political transition." However, he said that President Sarney is certain that the austerity path is the right one for Brazil. Mailson made this comment in response to a question by Seiki Tosato, a Seito businessman who wanted to know whether the sacrifice demanded from the Brazilian society is understood by the people.

Mashime Ishi, from the Mitsui Trading Company, asked Mailson if he believes in the government's capability to achieve its goals. The minister replied that the government has to deal with political pressures and therefore it will be difficult for it to achieve 100 percent of its economic goals. However, Nobrega promised the Brazilian Government's full effort in this aspect.

Widely applauded by the Japanese businessmen, who praised the Brazilian agreement with creditor banks and the IMF, Mailson da Nobrega considered his mission to be a success, primarily because he came to Japan after his predecessor, Dilson Funaro. Nobrega told some friends that Funaro's confrontation provided a sharp contrast to his own message of cooperation.

"It was especially meaningful to a people who never say no so as to not make their counterparts uncomfortable, and who act cautiously and negotiate a lot," Nobrega said.

Keidanren distributed to the Brazilian journalists the transcript of the discussions held during the private meeting.

Reviews Loan, Negotiations

OW0707150488 Tokyo KYODO in English 0922 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] Tokyo, July 7 KYODO—The Japanese Government has expressed its strong support for Brazil's efforts to repay its huge foreign debt, Brazilian Finance Minister Mailson Ferreira de Nobrega said Thursday.

Nobrega is currently in Japan on a seven-day official visit to seek help and support from the Japanese public and private sectors in putting his country's debt-ridden economy back to the right track.

Brazil is now making strenuous efforts to revitalize its economy in order to reclaim the trust of the international financial world and attract foreign investment, which is vital in the reconstruction of the economy, Nobrega said.

Brazil's efforts are focused on reducing the budget deficit, curbing inflation, and achieving financial and industrial deregulations, he said.

Nobrega expressed optimism about Brazil's economic future. If his country carries out sound economic policy it will attract foreign investment, especially from Japan, the world's largest creditor nation, because Brazil is a huge market with numerous investment opportunities, he said.

Referring to the current negotiations with the Paris Club, Nobrega said an agreement with the international consortium, which is a prerequisite for obtaining Japanese financial aid, is likely to be hammered out by the end of September.

He hoped the Bank of Japan would participate in the planned bridge loan for Brazil being negotiated under the Bank of International Settlements, which is financed by major central banks, Nobrega added.

Senator Says Nobrega Lied About Debt Agreement

PY0807215488 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Jul 88 p 30

[Text] Brasilia—The government has concealed information that contradicts Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega's statements when he officially announced the

agreement on the foreign debt. On that occasion Nobrega said the agreement was the best ever signed by Brazil. The 170-page documen: (term sheet) [preceding two words in English] established that disbursements are tied to the tutelage of the World Bank, besides the link to the IMF. The World Bank demanded, among other things, the implementation of reforms to the financial system.

The agreement is also tied to the plan to convert the foreign debt into investments in the country. This means that a suspension of the plan for conversion of the debt could be considered noncompliance with that clause of the agreement.

Yesterday's report on the omission of certain clauses of the agreement was made by Senator Carlos Chiarelli (PFl, Rio Grande do Sul State) and economist Petronio Portella Filho, who advises the Senate Foreign Debt Committee.

The committee got hold of the foreign-debt agreement text "through police-like clandestine methods," Chiarelli said, "since the government refused to provide information to Congress on the actual terms of the agreement." Petronio Portella said "the omissions were startling"; the truth is that "the tutelage to which we are now subjected is greater than it was in the time of Delfim Netto, because the World Bank is more rigorous. So, I believe the agreement is highly unfavorable for the country."

Senator Carlos Chiarelli added that "while it recommends internal austerity, the government displays generosity toward foreign creditors." He then explained that for the second time in less than a year Brazil will pay premiums on the financing of $3 billion for anticipated adherence to the agreement. The premiums will be paid to those banks that are willing to contribute to financing $5.2 billion. Since this amount includes the $3-billion short-term financing granted in December 1987, on which premiums for anticipated adherence have already been paid, Senator Chiarelli affirms that Brazil will be paying premiums twice, on more than half the $5.2 billion.

Another point brought up by Petronio Portella Filho is that the grace period for the repayment of the principal is not quite a grace period, because the agreement calls for Brazil to make repayments on the principal, which go by the name of "down payments," during the grace period.

Senator Carlos Chiarelli affirms that Minister Mailson da Nobrega lied to the Senate Foreign Debt Committee when he appeared before it. Minister Nobrega said then that there was no preliminary version of the foreign-debt agreement, but the truth is that the preliminary version had already been written at the time.

PMDB Seeks To Maintain Constitution Draft Text

PY0907151188 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] During the second round of voting sessions, the PMDB wishes to maintain the text of the Constitution as it was approved on the first round of voting sessions. The PMDB justifies this position due to the need to preserve several social and constitutional gains.

Despite admitting that some corrections are needed, Deputy Ibsen Pinheiro, PMDB leader in the Chamber of Deputies, spoke of his party's position after a meeting organized by Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes in his house at lunch time. The group in charge of drafting the constitution coordinated by Bernardo Cabral was also present at the luncheon.

[Begin Pinheiro recording] What I would like to say is that the PMDB's basic position—as I said before this meeting and which has now been confirmed—is to preserve the text of the draft constitution.

We wish to defend the text given the social and institutional gains it establishes. Of course we are all open to corrections [words indistinct] there could be some mistakes, or mistakes of adjustment committed as a result of voting difficulties.

However, we basically maintain a position of protecting the text in its social and institutional contents. [end recording]

Deputy Ibsen Pinheiro added that the party's position regarding other specific issues will depend on the amendments presented to Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes. However, Deputy Pinheiro believes that the text approved during the first voting session already represents an outline of what the future national constitution will be like.

Details of Satellite With PRC Disclosed

PY0707040188 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Jul 88 p A-7

[Text] Yesterday the National Institute of Space Research (INPE) for the first time disclosed structural details of the PRC-Brazilian remote sensing satellite. Technicians of the two countries are already designing the satellite, although an agreement has still not been signed at the government level. The body of the satellite measures 1.8 meters, by 1.9 meters, by 2 meters; the satellite has a solar panel that measures 6.3 meters long by 2.3 meters high; and the satellite altogether weighs 1.3 tons.

The satellite, which has been christened "China/Brazil Earth Resources Satellite—CBERS" [name in English], will cost a total of $150 million, of which Brazil will finance 30 percent, that is, $45 million. This satellite will be used for research on natural resources—such as

forests, mines, and sources of underground water—and for managing agriculture and monitoring the environment. In addition to this, it will supply meteorological, cartographic, and geographical information. The information gathered by the satellite will be sold to other countries in competition with satellites such as the French Spot and the U.S. Landsat [names in English].

The launching of the first CBERS prototype (there are two of them) is set for 1992 from the Shanxi base (southern PRC), with the aid of a PRC Long March rocket. The satellite will be placed in helio-synchronic orbit (in synchrony with the sun) at a height of 778 km, from where it will be able to identify objects of 19 meters on the ground during the day and 80 meters during the night. The pictures are taken by normal-light and infrared high-resolution cameras. The cameras operate on five color wavelengths and in black and white.

Through INPE, Brazil will develop 30 percent of the satellite components, including electronic equipment and other sophisticated components. The PRC, through its Space Technology Academy (Cast), will take care of the satellite's propulsion and control of the sensor systems. The CBERS will have 930 watts of power and will have a stabilization system on three axes that will allow control over all its movements.

Pipeline To Aid Integration With Bolivia

PY0907140388 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Brazil will purchase 40 million cubic meters of Bolivian gas to build a mining metal works center in Corumba City. This was reported by Mato Grosso do Sul Governor Marcelo Miranda, who said that the project will cost about $2 billion and will be financed by U.S. investors.

Miranda said that 600-km gas pipeline will be built from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, to Corumba to supply energy to a thermoelectric plant with a 600 megawatt capacity and a metal works plant capable of producing 200 tons of sponge iron per year.

The Mato Grosso de Sul governor said that the agreement with Bolivia will be signed by the end of this month, during President Jose Sarney's visit to that country.

Chile

Pinochet Comments on Anniversary, Other Issues

PY0907035088 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2322 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Speech by President Augusto Pinochet at La Tortuga Stadium in Talcahuano to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Concepcion—live; monitored in progress]

[Text] ...and not as a demonstration to the government I head, to the members of the government, to the Armed Forces, and to the thousands of persons who are working. [applause]

I have come here at a decisive moment in Chilean history, at a time when the institutions and mechanisms provided for by the Constitution should be set in motion to give birth to a new country, to the country that the Armed Forces and security forces, together with the entire citizenry, have been building during the past few years.

The progress made during this period can be appreciated by any observer who contemplates our reality without prejudice. However, the challenges of the present time encourage us to take new paths for development and stability for all Chileans. [applause] In order to be able to fulfill these objectives, we will have to work hard as of 11 March 1988 on the new model of republic. Within an institutional framework, this new goverment model should project and consolidate the task we have been carrying out so far.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in this regard, the victory of the yes-option during the upcoming plebiscite will by no means represent a perpetuation of power, as many opposition leaders have repeatedly stated. It will, in fact, represent the beginning of a new government that will necessarily bring substantial changes in the style and model of government provided for by the constitution, which was approved by the great majority, and will project Chile toward the threshold of the 21st century. [applause]

As a consequence, it marks the beginning of a new phase, an important phase, a phase that will be significant at the national level, a phase that thas been conceived and materialized by the Chilean people themselves. This phase is designed to place our country as the continent's vanguard, as it has always been.

Fellow countrymen: Since 11 September 1973 Chile has had to endure a constant campaign of lies and deceit, commonly called a misinformation campaign. I call it something simpler: It is nothing but lies. [applause] These lies many times have reached extremes without precedent in politics. Signs of paternalism and colonialism are starting to resurface with new determination. This time they are surfacing under the false pretext of blaming our country for all sorts of injustices, thus seeking to impose on this government—from abroad—forms of public action designed for other countries, not for Chile. [applause] I want to tell those countries that intend to impose their will on Chile that we were capable of expelling Marxism because Chile will never tolerate foreign intervention in its domestic affairs. [applause]

Tomorrow we will celebrate the 9th of July, the anniversary of the battle of Concepcion. We will then be able to show the world once again that we Chileans are the result of the mixture of Spanish blood with that of the people of Lautaro [19th century Indian historical figure], and that we would rather die than surrender. [applause]

Therefore, my friends, the acts that we have witnessed through the years represent the best nourishment for our patriotic feeling and our unwavering determination to see that Chile's sovereignty is respected.

However, interventionist attempts do not come only from the political leadership operating through a facade abroad, but also from those who are touring the world ahead of time in an effort to create an artificial climate of fraud in the country. This represents a lack of respect for the next plebiscite. They are political traitors. [applause]

For this reason, from this podium, and before you who have gathered here for this rally, I want to say that fraud is not the offspring of the government or the people. Fraud has been created by those who have sold their own country abroad. [applause]

It is likewise inadmissible to say that the Armed Forces and the forces of order do not represent guarantees for the Constitution. They are guardians of the Constitution.

Ladies and Gentlemen: To those who have doubts about our firm intention to establish full democracy, I want to recall this afternoon how the government has fufilled step by step the promises announced on 11 September 1973. Do we not have a Constitution approved by you the people? We promised the workers that they would not lose their privileges, and they have not lost them.

Now I ask you, do you want freedom? [crowd shouts: Yes] Well, then we have to respect the Constitution, because it protects us resolutely from the Soviet enemy [words indistinct]. [applause]

During the past few years, this government has made the country grow through the regionalization policy. This government has built 162,000 square kilometers of the southern highway. [sentence as heard] [applause] This government has built houses for our poor people to allow them live better. [applause] This government has opened the doors of the country to foreign companies to bring in their capital and make wealth blossom, so the wealth could be distributed among all, and not only a few. [applause]

Ladies and gentlemen: On concluding this speech, I want to ask of you from this podium, that when our fellow Chileans appear on television to insult us—because they know we are not going to do them any harm, because they know we have a democracy—that you tell them: Be careful, gentlemen, because patience has a limit, and you know what that limit is. [applause]

Now we are nearing the plebiscite. Now we are about to show the minority that screams and shouts, pretending to be a large crowd when they are really just a few, that we, in a generous but active manner, will wipe them off the map. [applause, shouts of: Iron Hand Pinochet]. We are going to do away with those terrorist groups that believe they can do as they like. We must do away with them once for all, and for this we need the support of the entire country. [applause]

Ladies and gentlemen: We are approaching the plebiscite. We only have 90 days before the plebiscite. During that plebiscite, I want to recall that we have been already deceived once by certain individuals who are going around talking. They attract fools who scream at the top of their lungs, and some who are not that foolish, but can scream just the same. We are going to show these gentlemen that the people are capable of a lot. [applause] We are going to show them that the people will repudiate them, because the people do not want anything but work, peace, and tranquility. We will give the people what they want. [applause]

Ladies and Gentlemen: On 11 September 1973 we set out to attain a goal. It has not yet been reached, but we are moving toward it. It is therefore necessary that the people know that we have a program for the next period, a program unknown to the opposition, because if they knew it, they would immediately copy it. [applause]. We have a program to help and encourage workers, to give women more rights. I did not put these plans on paper in fear that they would be copied [applause]. Women must know that they will have the right, as wives, to be protected by a law on marital partnership. [applause] That is to say that, even in the marital partnership, women will maintain a relative independence as they have asked me so many times. [applause, shouts]. This law will also provide for health services for women who, as mothers, require special care—much more than men. [applause].

We also have to take care of those people who have reached the third stage of life. We cannot continue having elderly people sitting in plazas. The elderly must be given new interests in life, and we will give them that. [applause] Attention must also be given to the young, the newly born. We have reduced the infant morality rate and now have new Chilean generations that we have helped to survive. [applause]

Ladies and Gentlemen, I want to especially direct a few words to my dear youngsters, the students. [applause, shouts]. The 11 September 1973 revolution has to have some meaning for the youth. They should receive a country that they can lead and conduct (?by our example), not by the example of martyrs. There is a difference between that which we are building and present-day politicians. We are preparing people with principles, people who see life through the prism of the principles by which they were brought up. On the contrary, present-day politicians base everything on their image, they look at themselves in mirrors, and then they make their decisions. [applause, shouts]

I conclude by expressing my thanks for this demonstration of support. We have done our work today, and tomorrow we will be moved by the sacrifice of our brothers who died in the struggle. May each and everyone listening to me receive, from this podium, the embrace of your president, because I do not know who will be president during the next government. What I do desire, however, is that the government govern with the support of each and everyone of you. Viva Chile! [applause, crowd shouts: Pinochet].

Warns Against Overconfidence

PY0907214188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Report from Concepcion]

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet today warned that we should not act with the mentality of taking victory for granted in the upcoming plebiscite, but that we should think and act as if it were an even fight, as if we had to make a great effort to defeat the enemy.

Pinochet made this statement during a breakfast meeting with businessmen, professionals, and university students. The president held a long talk on the national situation with the participants of the meeting.

Pinochet said the first one who reaches the finish line wins, but nobody can be sure before that. He added that a normal mentality is not to take things for granted, because a mentality of triumphalism means we are certain of victory and we cannot have that.

Pinochet called on the participants of the meeting to work hard, as if we were worried. He added that we should not think that winning the plebiscite will be simple, because if we think that way, we will be lost. He added that we must think we have to work hard.

The president also discussed the situation in the universities, which he said should be used for studies.

Criticizes Court Ruling

PY0907192088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1658 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Santiago, 9 Jul (EFE)—Today in Concepcion, 515 km south of Santiago, President Augusto Pinochet harshly criticized the Supreme Court of Justice for having overruled the expulsion of seven Concepcion University students charged with attacking the university rector.

During a breakfast meeting with a group of youths who favor his administration, Pinochet asked: "What do judicial proceedings have to do with the university?"

He added that the judiciary could intervene "in case of a crime or robbery, but in cases of university discipline, judicial proceedings have nothing to do."

Pinochet categorically said: "This story of lack of discipline cannot continue. Court protection is not for students."

The Supreme Court of Justice in Santiago confirmed the decision of the Concepcion Appellate Court which overruled the measure adopted by the Concepcion University to expel the seven student leaders.

Rector Carlos von Plessing has accused the students of attacking him after a student demonstration demanding fiscal credit for students and protesting high tuition costs.

The Concepcion University students are famous for constantly opposing the education policy of General Pinochet's regime.

Afterward Pinochet said that "we must not maintain a winning mentality" in face of the upcoming plebiscite, but "we must work as if we were worried."

Pinochet announced last night in Concepcion that the voting to elect the next president of the Republic for the 1989-97 term will be held in October at the latest.

Pinochet Speaks on Improving Ties With Peru

PY0807030388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Excerpt] President Augusto Pinochet said today it is important that people come and see for themselves the socio-economic and political process the country is experiencing, because it is being seriously distorted abroad.

The president said this to a group of 40 Peruvian businessmen visiting Chile, whom he received in a special audience. On this occasion Pinochet expressed the Chilean Government's desire to strengthen cooperation ties with Peru in order to maintain and strengthen reciprocal relations and trade, which is in keeping with the Chilean free market economic and foreign policy.

[Begin Pinochet recording] It should be noted that in order to make this cooperation feasible we must improve the trade balance between our two coutries. In order to improve this balance, you Peruvian businessmen must increase your exports to Chile, since we are in a position to absorb them. In this way we will estasblish a more fluid commercial relationship.

It should also be pointed out, and you businessmen should know better than anyone, that a country must be developed and consolidated by the private businessmen, leaving to the government only those tasks that cannot be carried out by the private sector. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Report of Matthei's Remarks Causes 'Surprise'

PY0807223188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1918 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Santiago, 8 Jul (EFE)—The report that Chilean Air Force Commander General Matthei has told an FRG newspaper that the candidacy of current Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet in the upcoming plebiscite on the presidential succession is practically assured has been received with surprise and interest in Chile.

According to the 1980 Constitution, the designation of the candidate must be made by the commanders of the Army (Pinochet himself), the Air Force (Matthei), the Navy (Admiral Jose Merino), and the Carabineros Director (General Rodolfo Stange), but both the candidate and the date of the plebiscite have been officially kept under absolute secrecy.

However, both the opposition and sectors close to the Chilean regime are certain that the candidate will be Gen Pinochet, who has been in power for 15 years since the military coup that in 1973 ousted the Socialist government of Salvador Allende.

The report issued by the FRG newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG has been played up by the Chilean media, especially the independent and opposition media, which have eagerly tried to obtain comments from Gen Matthei, the Air Force, and top Chilean official.

However, there has been no reaction in official circles, and the Air Force has only said it will not comment on the matter.

According to reports obtained in this city, the conservative FRANKFURTER ALLEGEMEINE ZEITUNG on 7 July, published an article in which Matthei states that Pinochet for some time has been acting as a "de facto candidate."

Nevertheless, he adds, his (Pinochet's) candidacy has been assured because the Navy and the Air Force are not willing to disrupt the unity of the Armed Forces.

In the interview granted to the FRG newspaper, Matthei also says the plebiscite on the presidential succession will be held in October, and the candidate will be officially made known to the public 30 days in advance.

According to the 1980 Constitution, the plebiscite will be held on a date not yet set, but before 11 February 1989; and through this plebiscite the Chileans will either ratify or reject the single candidate designated by the Armed Forces to succeed Gen Pinochet for an 8-year period.

Should the official candidate be rejected, the current government will extend its term for another year (until 11 March 1990); and general, open, and competitive elections must be held during that period for the presidency and Congress.

Matthei Denies Report

PY0907140088 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Jul 1988

[Text] Air Force Commander General Matthei has denied an FRG press report saying that he stated, among other things, that President Pinochet would be the Armed Forces candidate at the plebiscite.

Matthei's statement says: Regarding a publication in the FRG newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, I hereby declare that I have not given any interview to this newspaper. Therefore, the information this media cites does not affect my previously established position on the issue.

Matthei adds: Approximately 2 weeks ago I invited Willy Otten, whom I know from past contacts in the FRG, to make a private visit to the National Aeronautics Company. On that occasion, we discussed various current national issues as part of an informal dialogue. This conversation included political and economic topics.

Matthei says: Therefore, the information on the wires derives from Mr Otten's personal interpretation of a dialogue in very general terms on these topics. The information published by the newspaper in no way reflects my comments on that occasion.

Signed: Fernando Matthei, Air Force Commander.

Debt Agreement Almost Closed in New York

PY0907160288 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 9 Jul 88

[Text] Chilean debt negotiations Coordinator Hernan Sommerville has announced thaz Finance Minister Hernan Buchi and Central Bank President Enrique Seguel will sign the new debt agreements in New York on 4 August.

The report states that almost 100 percent of creditor banks have already signed the agreement. The report adds that there are nearly 300 banks on the list, but if branches and agencies are included, they will increase the total to nearly 400 institutions.

The fact that banks have signed the agreement in such a short time—2 months—shows the confidence international banks have in the government's handling of the debt and Chilean economic policy, Sommerville said.

Sommerville added that the agreement's purpose is to reduce the country's indebtedness and open the way for new loans in the private financial market.

The new flexibility of the agreements includes the possibility of paying the debt in Chilean pesos, with the previous agreement of the Central Bank; a renewal of contracts with reduced, extended, or similar terms for repayment; and the possibility of a Chilean repurchase of parts of the debt charged to the Copper Compensation Fund.

According to Sommerville, the foreign debt has been reduced from $19.3 billion in 1985 to its current total of $18.44 billion.

Socialist Lagos Vows Defeat of Pinochet

PY1007000188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1644 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] Santiago, 9 Jul (EFE)—Socialist Ricardo Lagos, chairman of the Party for Democracy (PPD), after learning that the date has been set for the plebiscite on the presidential succession in Chile, stated that in 90 days President Augusto Pinochet will be defeated throughout the country.

Lagos' statement, published today by the newspaper LA EPOCA, is the first opposition reaction to the announcement made last night by General Pinochet that the plebiscite will be held in October at the latest. The next president of the republic for the 1989-1997 period will be approved in this plebiscite.

At a mass rally held in the eastern sector of Santiago, Lagos stated: "From this place I tell you, Pinochet: In 90 days we will defeat you from Arica to Magallanes (northern and southern ends of Chile)."

Pinochet on several occasions has called Lagos a "communist." Lagos, in a television program aired a month ago, reminded Pinochet that he is not fulfilling the promise he made in 1980 that he would not run for another presidential term.

The Constitution establishes that Chileans must vote for or against a single presidential candidate proposed by the Armed Forces and Carabineros.

So far, the only name mentioned as a candidate is that of Gen Pinochet, who has been in power since the 11 September 1973 coup that overthrew President Salvador Allende.

Communist Leader Says Opposition 'Disconnected'

PY0907190488 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] During a public appearance in Valparaiso last night, Mireya Baltra, former Communist minister and congreswoman, publicly confessed that the leaders of oposition parties are totally disconnected with the grass roots of their parties, and that conditions are not ripe for the creation of a single, strong, and solid opposition.

Mireya Baltra said she did not find during her tour of the country an opposition capable of mobilizing millions of Chileans to unite behind the no-vote. She added that she only found confusion.

Baltra harshly criticized Christian Democratic Party leaders who want to exclude the communists from participating in opposition events and activities.

Top Communist Leader Allowed To Return

PY0807131888 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0345 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Santiago, 7 Jul (TELAM-ANSA)—The government of de facto President Augusto Pinochet has authorized the return to Chile of Americo Zorrilla, a former finance minister during President Salvador Allende's government and a high-ranking leader of the illegal Chilean Communist Party. Zorrilla was met at Santiago's international airport by the country's top communist leaders.

Zorrilla, a member of the Communist Party's Central committee, stayed underground in Chile for 3 years after the coup that overthrew Allende's socialist regime, and after that he lived in exile for 12 years in Moscow.

Considered one of the Chilean Communist Party's most important leaders, Zorrilla stated on arrival that he has great hopes that all opposition parties will unite to put an end to this black page in Chile's history.

Exiled Socialist Reportedly Returned Last Year

PY0807035088 Moscow Radio Magallanes in Spanish to Chile 0100 GMT 8 Jul 88

[From the newscast section]

[Text] Through the Valdivia governor's office, the interior ministry has raised charges against socialist leader Uldaricio Figueroa, who returned secretly to the country in June 1987.

General Eduardo Iturriaga Neuman, the judge of the 4th Valdivia court, has asserted that Figueroa had lied about the date and place of his return when he crossed the Andes, because he had wanted to protect those who helped him return to the country.

Ministry Draft Bill Modifies Election Laws

PY0907160788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] The Interior Ministry has sent the government junta a draft bill modifying the elections law. The bill adds and clarifies aspects regarding political parties and independent groups' political propaganda.

The information is part of an Interior Ministry statement stressing that the new dispositions regarding electoral propaganda seek to grant political parties and independent groups equal access to radio, television, and newspapers, thereby eliminating all possible discrimination.

Regarding the use of television, the disposition precisely and efficiently guarantees equal and free access to all political sectors.

Independent groups, registered in three continuous regions or eight scattered regions throughout the country, will have the same equal rights and obligations as legally constituted political parties.

This way the government once more shows its respect for a decision of the Constitutional Court that ordered it to further clarify the elections law, and answers well-intentioned concerns on the matter.

USSR Asked To Stop 'Negative' Broadcasting
PY0807155988 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Chile has asked the Soviet Union to apply the Perestroyka policy to its radio broadcasting to Chile.

Noelia Miranda, Chilean delegate to the U.S. Information Committee, has asked the USSR to end its provocative and subversive radio programs in Spanish to Chile.

Miranda made this request, taking advantage of a speech that the Soviet delegate made at the UN Information Committee. In his speech the Soviet delegate called for an end to the broadcasting of information that contributes to enmity or tension among people.

The Chilean delegate asked the Soviet Union to apply the perestroyka policy to its radio programs within this spirit, and to put an end to the continuous political aggression to Chile through Radio Moscow.

Bombs Damage Building, Suspend Railroad Traffic
PY0807192288 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Early this morning, terrorists staged bomb attacks in various parts of the capital of Nuble Province. One bomb damaged the building of the (Cema-Chile) Organization in Chillan, and another suspended railroad traffic between (Bulnes) and Chillan for 10 hours.

The first terrorist attack took place on Ecuador and (Dos Carreras) Streets, where the (Cema-Chile) building is being constructed. A group of unidentified individuals placed a bomb containing 200 grams of amonium gelignite and sulphuric acid with a slow fuse in a window on the northern facade of the building. Part of a wall, windows, curtains, and lamps were destroyed. Losses have not yet been fully evaluated.

Twenty minutes later a bomb consisting of 400 grams of tnt, which was mechanically detonated, destroyed 50 centimeters of track on the east side of the railroad, near kilometer 399. The traffic between (Bulnes) Station and Chillan Station was thus suspended. Passanger train 1042 connecting Puerto Montt to Alameda was able to resume its trip at 0730 this morning.

The two attacks, in which no one was injuried, are being thoroughly investigated by the security forces so that the terrorists responsible for them can be detained (?and placed at the disposal of the Chillan Third Criminal Court, the Provincial Government, and the national prosecutor).

Unofficial sources this morning reported on another explosion at 0630 this morning in an unspecified place. For this reason, the damage has not been established.

Shooting at Railroad Leaves 2 Wounded
PY0607134188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Text] The Carabineros have reported an incident that occurred at the railroad tracks early this morning. Between 0445 and 0500, a Carabineros patrol that was crossing the tracks near Plano Regulador Street and Maipu Avenue saw five individuals moving along the tracks. The patrolmen stopped the individuals and asked them to identify themselves. The individuals replied by firing at the patrolmen and trying to escape.

The Carabineros returned the fire, arrested two of the five individuals, and wounded one. The other two individuals escaped toward La Victoria neighborhood.

One Carabinero was injured. He was taken to the Carabineros Hospital where he is being treated for a wound to the head.

The report adds that the three individuals were carrying weapons and explosives, and that they were caught red-handed while placing explosives on the railroad tracks.

This is the first wrap up released by the police. The Carabineros Public Relations Office will release a more detailed report later this morning.

Colombia

Kidnappers Send Recent Gomez Photo to Paper
PA1007030488 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Excerpt] The kidnappers of national leader Alvaro Gomez Hurtado have shown that Gomez is still alive by sending a very recent photograph of him to EL COLOMBIANO, the Medellin newspaper. In the picture, Gomez is reading a 28 June magazine. This is the second picture published after Gomez' abduction on 29 May. [passage omitted]

Parties Agree To Include Rebels in Dialogue

PA0907021388 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Report by Jesus Garzon]

[Excerpt] Today the Conservative and Liberal Parties and the Patriotic Union decided to include the rebel groups in their talks and to hear their suggestions, which could lead to peace in the country. A document signed by the political parties and the Patriotic Union invites the rebel groups to say whether or not they are willing to participate in the great national dialogue. [passage omitted]

Government Names New Ambassador to Panama

PA1007042988 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0154 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Text] We want to report something that practically went unnoticed in Colombia this week. Our country recognized the Panamanian Government of President Manuel Solis Palma, who took office when President Eric Delvalle was overthrown. Retired General Jaime Hernandez Lopez, the new ambassador, has already presented his credentials to President Solis. Therefore, our country becomes the first South American country, with the exception of Cuba and Nicaragua [as heard], to recognize Panama's de facto government.

Bomb Blacks Out 40 Percent of Bogota

PA1007043788 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] A terrorist attack in Bogota left more than 40 percent of the capital without electricity. More details follow about this terrorist attack from Oscar Galvis.

[Begin Galvis recording] This action left 60 neighborhoods in southern and central Bogota without electricity. At approximately 1915, a subversive group detonated 50 kg of dynamite, by remote control, attached to two power towers near the transportation terminal.

At the present time, the electric company's technicians are repairing the towers. Electrical service was restored 40 minutes after the incident. The towers targeted in the attack transmit 115,000 kilowatts. A bomb attached to a third tower was defused by the F-2's [police security unit] bomb disposal team.

Representatives of Bogota's electric company did not dismiss the possibility of energy rationing in certain areas because certain distribution centers are currently overloaded.

This is the second attack on power towers in Bogota. [end recording]

Ecuador

Government Suspends Foreign Debt Talks

PA0807195988 Paris AFP in Spanish 1712 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Quito, 8 Jul (AFP)—Today Finance Minister Eduardo Cabezas announced here that Ecuador has suspended its foreign debt renegotiations with international private banks because of unexpected conditions affecting its economy and because the [creditors'] renegotiating committee has not honored its agreements.

In making the announcement, Cabezas criticized international private banks, referred to the international debt problem, and made recommendations to the next government of Social Democrat Rodrigo Borja, who will assume his post on 10 August. Cabezas urged the next government "to guarantee a practical and objective renegotiation of the country's foreign debt which will extend beyond the year 2000."

Cabezas recalled that Ecuador renegotiated its debt with private banks in 1985 "under terms which at the time were acceptable for the country and the creditor banks." However, Ecuador was forced to suspend payments on the debt service because of the reduction in oil prices in the international market in 1986 and the damage suffered by its only oil pipeline in 1987, which caused a 6-month suspension of its oil exports.

According to Cabezas, approximately 150,000 barrels of oil exports a day represent more than 50 percent of the country's foreign exchange income, while its current debt totals "approximately $10 billion."

He added that last October Ecuador again proposed a new renegotiation before the negotiating committee, but the renegotiation had to be suspended once more.

Cabezas noted that this was due to the drop in oil prices to approximately $13 per barrel, compared to the budgeted price of $17.25; to the negotiating committee's noncompliance in granting a $350-million fresh credit from the banks; and to the impossibility of renewing an oil exchange credit to avoid using up funds in short-term commitments.

Cabezas said that it had been agreed to sign the new renegotiation in January. However, at that time countries like Chile and Brazil obtained better terms, and other countries were on their way to obtaining similar concessions. This was something "Ecuador could not by any means overlook."

In a clear recommendation to the next government, Cabezas mentioned several factors to be considered in any renegotiation. He said that: it should result in a real reduction of payments; it should not sacrifice economic and social development; it should allow for the real transfer of fresh funds to the country to cover the

1987-1988 gap; it should take difficult situations into account; and it should look at the experiences of other countries such as Mexico, which has renegotiated its debt through dollar bonds.

Meanwhile, today Ecuador will begin signing contracts for the renegotiation of government credits obtained from countries in the Paris Club. The renegotiations will begin this afternoon with the United States, to whom Ecuador owes more than $30 million, and will continue with the remaining countries until the end of this month. Ecuador's debt with the Paris Club countries totals approximately $20 million.

Zavala Urges Reagan Trial on Plane Downing

PA0707213288 Paris AFP in Spanish 0512 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] Quito, 6 Jul (AFP)—Today Ecuadoran Congress President Jorge Zavala said here that President Ronald Reagan "should be brought before an international court" and charged with the downing of the Iranian airbus with a U.S. missile.

The Social Democratic leader said "there is no such thing as criminal states or countries," only "criminal rulers." He advocated the creation of a "permanent international court to try statesmen who abuse their position and military power and shamelessly sacrifice human lives."

One Killed, Three Injured in Bus Fare Protests

PA0607201488 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1852 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Text] Quito, 6 Jul (REUTER)—Today police spokesmen reported that one student was killed and three people were injured, including two policemen, in disturbances that broke out as a result of the government decision to increase public transportation fares.

The most serious incidents occurred yesterday in Guayaquil, 416 km southwest of Quito, when university students clashed with bus drivers and policemen after a 35-percent increase in urban bus fares was established.

In Quito, university and secondary school students erected barricades and burned tires in the streets. They were dispersed by riot policemen with tear gas and water cannons.

In Guayaquil, where the student was killed, the police arrested at least 10 people. There were no reports of casualties or arrests in Quito.

On Monday, the government decreed a 31-percent wage increase and authorized an increase in bus fares to compensate for the current deterioration of the economy, which in 1987 registered a growth rate of minus 5.2 percent.

The inflation rate in May was approximately 50 percent, compared to 32 percent in 1987.

Today Jose Chavez, leader of the main leftist trade union coalition, told journalists that the workers are not satisfied with the new wages and that they will ask the next administration for a new readjustment.

President Leon Febres-Cordero's conservative administration will be replaced in August by Social Democrat Rodrigo Borja, who was elected in May to a 4-year term.

Peru

Garcia Receives Chilean Opposition Leader

PY0707000688 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Report by Julia Guevara from the Government Palace]

[Text] Chilean opposition leader Gabriel Valdes has just left the Government Palace after a meeting with Peruvian President Alan Garcia, with whom he discussed problems related to Peru and Chile.

Valdes, who is the leader of the Chilean Christian Democratic Party, is visiting Lima at the invitation of the Peruvian Institute for International Studies, for the presentation of a report entitled: "America 1988, Time of Elections."

Regarding the plebiscite in Chile, Valdes said he hopes there will be guarantees for the freedoms of expression and assembly. He added that after 15 years of dictatorship, Chile is living through a democratic process, awaiting the date for the plebiscite called for by President Augusto Pinochet, the deadline of which is 11 December 1988, as provided by the Constitution.

Valdes added that through this plebiscite the Chilean people will decide for the yes vote, maintaining Pinochet's dictatorship for another 8-year period, or for the no vote proposed by the opposition forces, which would be a decision for free and democratic elections. In the latter case, the military government would remain in power for only 1 year.

Church Workers Suspected of Aiding Rebels

LD1007233088 Hamburg DPA in German 2253 GMT 10 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Lima, (DPA)—In Peru a German, who works for a church social welfare organization, and an American priest have been arrested under suspicion of cooperating with terrorists. It was reported in Lima on Sunday that the two men are accused of having financially supported the Maoist underground Shining Path organization.

The German, Rainer Uhle, and the American priest, Charles Gallagher, who works in Peru, were arrested on Saturday in a hotel in the town of Ayacucho, 350 km southeast of Lima. At the same time the police arrested three female staff members of the church Human Rights Commission in Peru and the deputy chairwoman of the Association of Relatives of the Arrested and Disappeared in the Ayacucho region. [passage omitted]

According to church circles, Uhle and Gallagher had visited a group of social workers in the area who are training primarily orphan children in craft work. Within the framework of this church development project, financial aid was also given to families who have lost primary financial support in the course of the guerrilla war, which has been going on for over 8 years; around 12,000 people have died. [passage omitted]

Government Signs Trade Agreement With PRC

PY0707033188 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Jul 88

[Text] Peru will sell the PRC $600 million worth of minerals over a 3-year period, Energy and Mines Minister Abel Salinas announced today after signing a trade agreement with that Asian nation.

Salinas said that in this way the gates of the great Asian market have been opened, which will be very beneficial for Peru. Peru and the PRC are both nations of the Pacific basin.

Navy Industry Building Nuclear Plant Parts

PY0907160988 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Text] The Navy Maritime Industrial Service, SIMA-Peru, is building parts for nuclear plants thanks to its appropriate metal machinery infrastructure. According to a report, SIMA is currently building components and systems for nuclear plants. For example, the construction of a [words indistinct] reactor in the Huarangal nuclear plant is about to be concluded. It is being built as a result of an agreement between the IPEN [Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy] and the Argentine CNEA, for which SIMA will provide some parts which were made in its industrial plant.

Uruguay

Electoral Court Annuls Referendum Signatures

PY0807190388 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0317 GMT 8 Jul 88

[Text] Montevideo, 7 Jul (EFE)—Today Electoral Court official Pablo Garcia Pintos said that although the original list of signatures submitted to the court calling for a referendum against the Full Stop Law exceeded the required minimum number, "the number is not large enough now that the first stages of verification have been completed."

The call for a referendum is aimed at annulling the Full Stop Law which put an end to the trials of military men who violated human rights. The law was approved by the Uruguayan Congress in December 1986.

Garcia Pintos told the press that during the third stage of verifying the 612,000 signatures of those citizens who asked for a referendum, "over 5 percent of the signatures" were annulled.

Deputy Ruben Diaz, delegate of the Colorado Party before the Electoral Court, said that many signatures corresponded to people who had died during the 1980-1986 period. They were, therefore, annulled when their deaths were verified by the most recent electoral court list. Diaz gave details of the names, identification card number, and date of death of the "dead people who had signed."

Garcia Pintos also indicated that by the time we start the final stage of the verification process, which checks if the signatures correspond to the people listed in the electoral registry, "there will be 580,000 signatures left." This will "not be enough" because "experience shows that it is normal to discard over 5 percent of the signatures in the last verification stage."

The National Referendum Commission in December 1987 delivered to the Electoral Court a list of 635,00 signatures, of which 612,000 were left after the first two verifications were made.

In order to hold the referendum on the law which put an end to the trial of military men it is necessary to have 555,000 signatures, representing 25 percent of the people registered in the Electoral Court.

The referendum was sponsored by the leftist Broad Front coalition, members of the former Tupamaros organization, two minority groups of the current ruling Colorado Party, and the main opposition Blanco Party.

The report, disclosed by Garcia Pintos, agreed with a declaration made by the National Referendum Commission expressing concern that during the signature verification investigation, some pages of the electoral registry were found to be missing.

The declaration says that the people "can rest assured that the commission will defend the validity of the signatures."

Sources of the commission have admitted that between 3.96 and 7.92 percent of the signatures of people living in the interior of the country have been annulled.

Tupamaros Member on Democracy, Plebiscite

PY0607152788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0041 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Text] Bonn, 5 Jul (EFE)—Today in Bonn, Luis Rosadilla, a member of the Central Committee of the Uruguayan National Liberation Movement (Tupamaros), told EFE that in his country "the only way to carry out any type of struggle is through legal and public formulas such as the one we are currently implementing."

Rosadilla added that "although armed struggle cannot be totally rejected, we do not want our people to experience new stages of violence to achieve a true democracy."

When the Tupamaros were released from prison, he continued, "we committed ourselves to the people, who fought a lot to achieve the state of law that is now in force, and we will remain faithful to our word like when we said the fatherland or death and we then implemented violent formulas."

Regarding the plebiscite that has been requested to obtain a legal formula to punish those who violated human rights during the military dictatorship, Rosadilla said: "It is not just a question of any one military man being put in prison for his crimes; it is a question of breaking up the apparatus of repression that was used against the Uruguayan people."

He pointed out that the government has tried to block in every way the plebiscite and "in answer to the request for a plebiscite it has named as defense minister the person who was commander in chief during the dictatorship and who was responsible for serious human rights violations." Finally, he expressed his concern about the fact that the military continues to be a danger for democracy in Uruguay, and he highlighted the fact that Defense Minister General Hugo Medina himself stated that "we will see if we acknowledge the result," when he was asked about the plebiscite.

Spanish Deputies at Social Democracy Seminar

PY0707153488 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Jul 88

[Text] Montevideo, 6 Jul (EFE)—In Montevideo three Spanish Socialist deputies are attending a seminar entitled: "Social Democracy: Utopia and Power." Also attending are members of the Uruguayan Congress and Government.

Justo Zambrana, deputy for Cuenca, lectured on "The Transition to Democracy in Spain" and on "Economic Policies." Ramon Vargas Machuca, deputy for Cadiz, lectured on "The Culture of Current Socialism" and on "Socialism and Democracy Before the End of the Century." Dolores Sanchez, deputy for Malaga, lectured on "Feminism and New Political Culture."

The seminar, which concludes tomorrow, was organized by the Baltasar Brum Research Center, which is linked to the Colorado Party, and by the Pablo Iglesias Foundation of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party (PSOE).

The seminar was opened by Uruguayan Vice President Enrique Tarigo.

Among the other speakers are Colorado Party Senator Manuel Flores Silva, Economy Under Secretary Luis Mosca, sociologist Javier Bonilla, and reporter Alejandro Bluth.

The Spanish deputies told EFE that they will contact those who are forming new parties, such as the Socialist Party, with which the Pablo Iglesias Foundation is cooperating. The Spanish deputies will leave for Asuncion, Paraguay, on 8 July.

Venezuela

5 Guerrillas Killed in Clash Near Guasdualitos

PA0907144088 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jul 88

[Statement by Defense Minister Italo Del Valle Alliegro—date and place not given]

[Text] This morning, as a result of the action undertaken by the Unified Paez Command, there was an armed clash near Guasdualitos on the way to Los Totumitos, that left five guerrillas dead. Two of the rebels were wearing uniforms of the Colombian police, one was wearing a camouflage uniform, and two were dressed as civilians. The authorities seized two light FAL rifles, three .38-caliber revolvers, and one shotgun.

There was subsequently another clash, the results of which are not yet known since specific information was not readily available. As soon as it is known, I will advise the social communications media.